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ECOSYSTEMS IMPROVED FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES (ECOFISH) PROJECT

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

700DALOY	-	700 Dedicated Alert Lines for Ocean Biodiversity
ADSDPP	-	Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development Protection Plan
AIM	-	Asian Institute of Management
AMPA	-	Adopt a Marine Protected Area Project
ARMM	-	Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao
ATFI	-	Alter Trade Foundation, Inc.
BFAR	-	Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
BoatR	-	National Municipal Fishing Boat Registration System
BuB	-	Bottom-up-Budgeting
C3	-	Community Centered Conservation
CADT	-	Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title
CAMASS	-	Cabangahan Mangingisda Association
CBA	-	Cost Benefit Analysis
CBLA	-	Cash for Building Livelihood Assets
CBMRS	-	Campomanes-Ballo Marine Reserve and Sanctuary
CCA	-	Climate Change Adaptation
CCCNI	-	Calamianes Conservation and Cultural Networks Inc.
CCEF	-	Coastal Conservation Education Foundation
CCT	-	Conditional Cash Transfer
CFLET	-	City Fisheries Law Enforcement Team
CFRM	-	Coastal and Fisheries Resources Management
CFV	-	Commercial Fishing Vessel
CFVR	-	Commercial Fishing Vessel Registration
CI	-	Conservation International
CIG	-	Calamianes Island Group
CLEC	-	Coastal Law Enforcement Council
CLET	-	Coastal Law Enforcement Team
CLUP	-	Comprehensive Land Use Plan
CLWUP	-	Comprehensive Land and Water Use Plan
CMN	-	Calamianes MPA Network
COMPETE	-	Advancing Philippine Competitiveness Project
COP	-	Chief of Party
COR	-	Contracting Officer's Representative
CRM	-	Coastal Resources Management
CSO	-	Civil Society Organization
CTI	-	Coral Triangle Initiative
CVA	-	Coastal Vulnerability Assessment
DA	-	Department of Agriculture
DAP	-	Development Academy of the Philippines
DBM	-	Department of Budget and Management
DCOP	-	Deputy Chief of Party
DDBRMC	-	Danajon Double Barrier Reef Management Council
DENR	-	Department of Environment and Natural Resources
DILG	-	Department of Interior and Local Government

DOF	-	Department of Finance
DOST	-	Department of Science and Technology
DSWD	-	Department of Social Work and Development
EAFM	-	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management
ECOFISH	-	Ecosystems Improved for Sustainable Fisheries
ELAC	-	Environmental Legal Assistance Center
ENRD	-	Environment and Natural Resources Department
EO	-	Executive Order
EU	-	European Union
EwE	-	Ecopath with Ecosim
FARMC	-	Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council
FGD	-	Focus Group Discussion
FIMS	-	Fisheries Information System
FISH	-	Fisheries Improved for Sustainable Harvest Project
FishR	-	National Program for Municipal Fisherfolk Registration
FLE	-	Fisheries Law Enforcement
FRM	-	Fisheries Resources Management
GPBP	-	Grassroots Participatory Budgeting Process
GPH	-	Government of the Philippines
HIPADA	-	Hinatuan Passage Development Alliance
ICTO	-	Information and Communication Office
IEC	-	Information, Education and Communication
IFRM	-	Integrated Fishery Resource Management
IMC	-	Information Management System
IR		Intermediate Result
IRR	-	Implementing Rules and Regulations
IUUF	-	Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
JWMRS	-	Julien's Wreck Marine Reserve and Sanctuary
KALIPI	-	Kalipunan ng Liping Pilipina
LCE	-	Local Chief Executive
LCP	-	League of Cities of the Philippines
LGPMS	-	Local Governance Performance Management System
LGU	-	Local Government Unit
LMP	-	League of Municipalities of the Philippines
LOP	-	Life of Project
LPRAT	-	Local Poverty Reduction Action Team
MAO	-	Municipal Agriculture Officer
MARINA	-	Maritime Industry Development Authority
MARPSTA	-	Maritime Police Station
MDRRMC	-	Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council
MEAT	-	Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool
MERF	-	Marine Environment Resources Foundation, Inc.
MFI	-	Malampaya Foundation Incorporated
MKBA	-	Marine Key Biodiversity Area
MMRS	-	Maasin Marine Reserve and Sanctuary
MOA	-	Memorandum of Agreement

MOU	-	Memorandum of Understanding
MPA	-	Marine Protected Area
MSN	-	MPA Support Network
MSU	-	Mindanao State University
NAMRIA	-	National Mapping and Resource Information Authority
NAPC	-	National Anti-Poverty Commission
NCIP	-	National Commission on Indigenous Peoples
NEDA	-	National Economic and Development Authority
NFARMC	-	National Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council
NFI	-	National Fisheries Institute
NFR	-	NGOs for Fisheries Reform
NFRDI	-	National Fisheries Research and Development Institute
NGA	-	National Government Agencies
NGO	-	Non-Governmental Organization
NOAA	-	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NSAP	-	National Stock Assessment Program
NSO	-	National Statistics Office
OECC	-	Office of Energy, Environment and Climate Change
PACPI	-	Philippine Association of Crab Processors, Inc.
PAGE	-	Palawan Advocates for Good Governance and Empowerment
PAMB	-	Protected Area Management Board
PAO	-	Provincial Agriculture Officer
PCG	-	Philippine Coast Guard
PCRA	-	Participatory Coastal Resource Assessment
PCSD	-	Palawan Council for Sustainable Development
PCV	-	Peace Corps Volunteer
PEMO	-	Provincial Environment Management Officer
PES	-	Payment for Ecosystem Services
PFO	-	Provincial Fisheries Officer
PGENRO	-	Provincial Government Environment and Natural Resources Officer
PHILSSA	-	Partnership of Philippine Support Services Agencies Inc,
PNP-MG	-	Philippine National Police – Maritime Group
PO	-	People’s Organization
PPP	-	Public-Private Partnership
PPPI	-	Polymer Products Philippines, Inc.
PRRCFI	-	Philippine Reef and Rainforest Foundation, Inc.
QRT	-	Quick Response Team
RAT	-	Regional Assessment Team
REECS	-	Resources Environment and Economics Center for Studies, Inc.
RSBSA	-	Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture
RTD	-	Roundtable Discussion
SAF	-	Special Activities Fund
SB	-	Sangguniang Bayan
SCTR	-	State of the Coral Triangle Report
SEA	-	Sea and Earth Advocates
SEMFISH	-	Sustainable Enterprises for Municipal Fishing Communities of South

		Negros
SEP	-	Strategic Environmental Plan
SGIDS	-	Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist
SGLC	-	Seal of Good Local Governance
SIMRS	-	Sunken Island Marine Reserve and Sanctuary
SLP	-	Sustainable Livelihood Program
SMRR	-	State of the Marine Resources Report
SNCDMC	-	Southern Negros Coastal Development and Management Council
SPMPMC	-	Siete Pecados Marine Park Management Council
SUC	-	State Universities and Colleges
TK	-	Tanggol Kalikasan, Inc.
TTCIA	-	Tagbanua Tribes of Coron Island Association
TWG	-	Technical Working Group
ULAP	-	Union of Local Authorities in the Philippines
UPMSI	-	University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute
UPVFI	-	University of the Philippines in the Visayas Foundation, Inc.
USAID	-	United States Agency for International Development
US-DOI	-	United States Department of the Interior
VA	-	Vulnerability Assessment
VIP	-	Verde Island Passage
VMG	-	Vision, Mission and Goals
WTP	-	Willingness to Pay
WWF	-	World Wide Fund for Nature
ZSL	-	Zoological Society of London

1. Introduction

The technical assistance and services contract was awarded to Tetra Tech - ARD for the implementation of USAID/Philippines' Ecosystems Improved for Sustainable Fisheries (ECOFISH) Project in June 29, 2012, under contract number AID-492-C-12-00008. This five-year project was designed to provide technical assistance to the Government of the Philippines (GPH), through the Department of Agriculture – Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR) and implemented in partnership with selected Local Government Units (LGU). The main objective of the ECOFISH Project is to improve the management of important coastal and marine resources and associated ecosystems that support local economies. It intends to achieve this by promoting fishing sector reforms, as well as the growth and profitability of fisheries through the application of the ecosystems approach to fisheries management (EAFM) in larger marine conservation areas and involving clusters of Local Government Units (LGUs).

The ECOFISH Project is in line with the current U.S. Country Assistance Strategy directed at reducing threats to biodiversity and improving natural resources and environment. This project is expected to contribute to achieving “Development Objective 3: Environmental Resilience Improved,” particularly “IR3.2 Natural Resources and Environmental Management Improved” of the results framework of USAID/Philippine Mission’s Country Development Cooperation Strategy (2012-2016). It is also designed to contribute to priority goals and actions laid out in the Philippine Development Plan (2011-2016), particularly Chapter 4 (Competitive and Sustainable Agriculture and Fisheries), and Chapter 10 (Protection, Conservation and Rehabilitation of Environment and Natural Resources).

This Year 4 Annual Report documents the activities and interventions during the four quarters of ECOFISH project implementation covering the period 01 October 2015 to 30 September 2016. It likewise highlights the focus of the Project during its fourth year of implementation.

2. Project Objectives

The main objective of the ECOFISH Project is to improve the management of important coastal and marine resources and associated ecosystems that support local economies. It will conserve biological diversity, enhance ecosystem productivity, and restore profitability of fisheries in eight marine key biodiversity areas (MKBAs) using the ecosystems approach to fisheries management (EAFM) as a cornerstone for improved social, economic, and environmental benefits.

The ECOFISH Project is designed to make an impact in eight MKBAs in the country (Figure 1), namely: (1) the Calamianes Island Group MKBA, (2) Lingayen Gulf MKBA, (3) Ticao Pass – San Bernardino Strait-Lagonoy Gulf MKBA, (4) Danajon Reef MKBA, (5) South Negros MKBA, (6) Surigao del Sur and Surigao del Norte MKBA, (7) Sulu Archipelago MKBA, and (8) Verde Island Passage MKBA. They represent all eight marine bio-regions of the Philippines and

were selected due to their extremely high need for marine biodiversity conservation being marine ecosystem “hotspots” in the Philippines that mirror the common issues that impact on capture fisheries locally and nationally, namely:

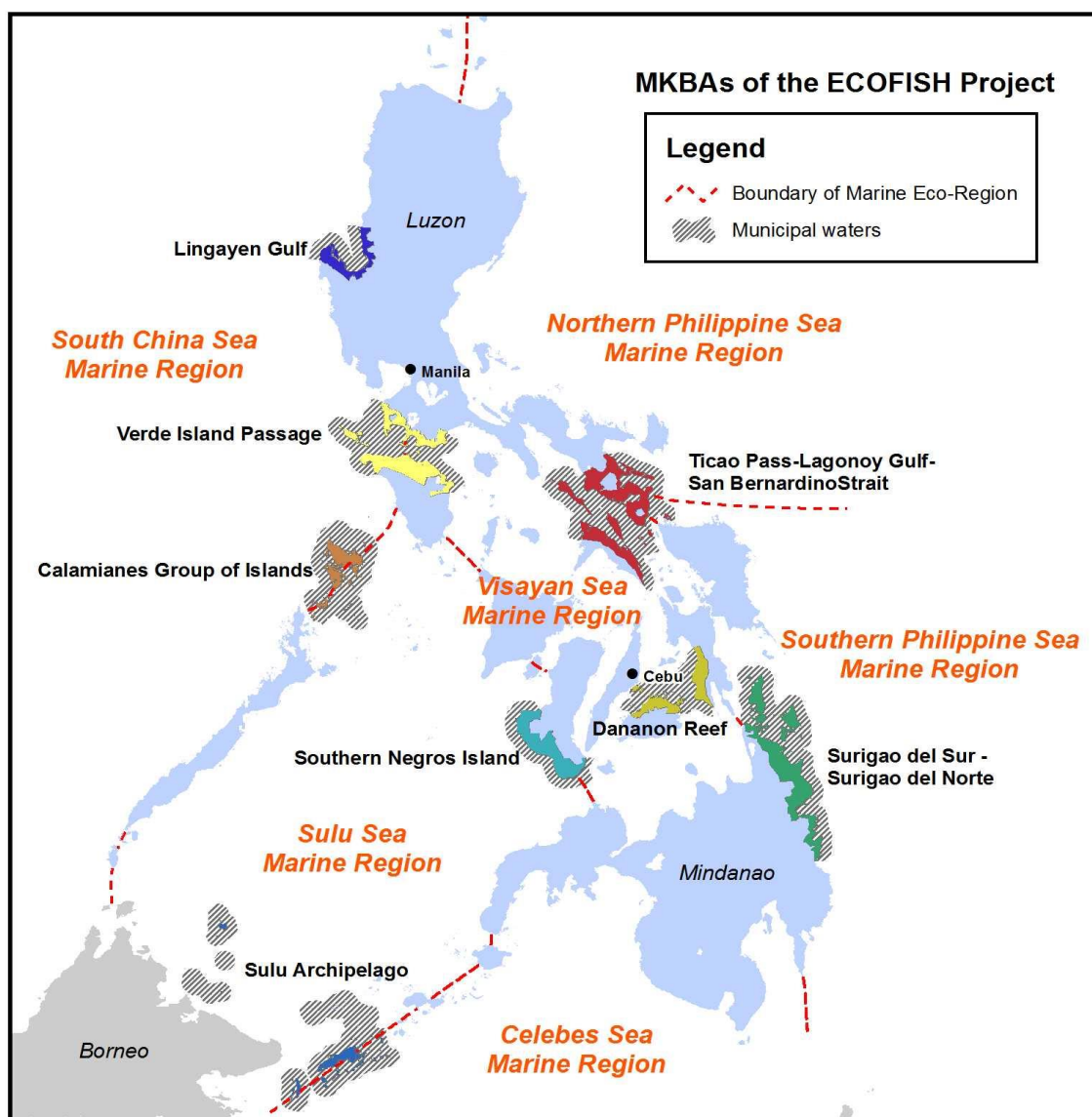
- loss of marine biodiversity;
- declining fish stocks;
- high population growth;
- limited private sector investment;
- inconsistent policies and programs for sustainable fisheries; and
- weak institutional and stakeholder capacity to plan and implement fisheries management.

Although majority of project activities will cut across these eight MKBAs, implementation strategies, focus, priorities, and levels of engagement may differ from place to place on account of each MKBA’s unique ecosystem features, opportunities, and threats. Table 1 shows the general ecosystem features, opportunities, and threats in the eight MKBAs. Focal areas were identified and selected at the start of the project. Implementation of project activities to achieve the deliverables will radiate from the focal areas towards the expansion and replication areas of the respective MKBAS. The municipalities covered by the focal areas are given in Table 2.

At the end of five years, the 14 ECOFISH project deliverables (see Table 3) are expected to lead to the following key results:

- (A) An average of 10% increase in fisheries biomass across the eight MKBAs;
- (B) A 10% increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management from a baseline established at the start of the Project;
- (C) Establishment of a national capacity development program to enhance the capacities of LGUs and relevant national agencies to apply ecosystem-based approaches to fisheries management;
- (D) Eight public-private partnerships supporting the objectives of the ECOFISH Project created and operating;
- (E) One million hectares of municipal marine waters under improved management; and
- (F) A core of 30 LGUs across the eight MKBAs with improved capacity for implementing ecosystem approaches to fisheries management.

Table 3 presents the main relationship between the 14 deliverables and the six key results. Deliverables leading to Results C and D build the foundation for project activities. Those for Results E and F drive the implementation at the MKBA level, and taken together they attain the overall ECOFISH Results A and B.



Quick summary of ECOFISH MKBAs

MKBA	ECOFISH Partner LGUs		ECOFISH Focal LGUs	
	n	Area of Municipal Waters (sq km)	n	Area of Municipal Waters (sq km)
Lingayen Gulf	17	2,934.6	8	1,150.1
Calamianes Group of Islands	4	10,377.8	4	10,377.8
Danajon Reef	20	4,912.7	13	2,863.3
South Negros Island	11	3,933.0	7	3,298.7
Sulu Archipelago	11	19,354.1	6	5,825.2
Surigao del Sur/del Norte	39	11,052.1	6	1,066.6
Verde Island Passage	26	9,031.7	9	1,559.7
Ticao Pass - Lagonoy Gulf - San Bernardino Strait	42	13,548.5	10	3,203.9

Figure 1. Map of the Eight Marine Key Biodiversity Areas (MKBAs) of ECOFISH

Table 1. Summary of Ecosystem Features, Opportunities and Threats in the Eight MKBAs

MKBA	Ecosystem Features	Opportunities	Threats
Calamianes Island Group	70 percent of the coral and seagrass species recorded in the Philippines	Take advantage of focus on MPA management to support ecotourism and economic alternatives; collaborate and leverage work at CTI demonstration site.	Destructive fishing and uncontrolled live fish trade; one weak LGU reduces impact of inter-LGU alliance activities.
Danajon Reef	One of only three double barrier reefs in the Indo-Pacific region	Take advantage of strong provincial and municipal buy-in of CRM programs to further EAFM goals. Strong LGU alliances.	High fish demand lead to high fishing pressure and illegal fishing.
Lingayen Gulf	Extensive coral reef, seagrass, and soft bottom community supporting the rich fishing ground	Ability to identify specific protection and management interventions from long-term fisheries data sets; leverage high awareness due to past environmental programs to implement EAFM activities.	Severe overfishing and poor water quality in mariculture areas resulting in fish kills; lack of inter-LGU alliances.
Ticao Pass - Lagonoy Gulf - San Bernardino	Diverse small pelagic resources; important habitat for dolphins, dugongs, and whale sharks	Utilize long-term data for Lagonoy Gulf and Sorsogon Bay to identify specific interventions; take advantage of active university involvement to participate in project activities and development of employment from growing marine ecotourism sector.	Steep declines in fish stocks; encroachment of commercial vessels; complex marine ecosystem; lack of inter-LGU alliances.
South Negros Island	Deep water harbors; large and small pelagic fishes	Begin to formalize and develop EAFM activities by building on long history of community-based marine protected areas.	No comprehensive assessment of capture fisheries; lack of inter-LGU alliances.
Sulu Archipelago	Rich ecosystem with massive network of coral reefs, seagrass beds and mangroves	Collaborate and leverage work at CTI demonstration site; begin the capacity building by capitalizing on increasing awareness on coastal and fisheries resource management.	Still weak management and law enforcement and lack of formal inter-LGU alliance agreements; unsustained support from some local governments.
Surigao del Sur and Surigao del Norte	Extensive deep water and shallow water coral reef, seagrass and soft bottom resources	Take advantage of strong inter-LGU alliances to leverage and increase fisheries interventions.	Upland erosion and siltation from mine tailings of nearshore impacting on habitats.
Verde Island Passage	Considered the ‘center of the center’ of the world’s fish diversity	Long-term marine conservation initiatives by NGOs; CTI demonstration site.	Encroachment of commercial vessels, use of cyanide in aquarium fish collection.

Table 2. Municipalities that Constitute the Focal Area of ECOFISH Project, Area of their Municipal Waters and Length of their Coastlines.

Province	Municipality	Area of Municipal Water (km ²)	Length of Coast line (km)	Province	Municipality	Area of Municipal Water (km ²)	Length of Coast line (km)
Calamianes Island Group MKBA				South Negros MKBA			
Palawan	Busuanga	1,895	243	Negros Occidental	Cauayan	854	55
	Coron	3,241	550		Hinoba-an	557	47
	Culion	1,581	454		Sipalay	390	44
	Linapacan	3,661	344	Negros Oriental	Basay	302	16
Danajon Reef MKBA			Bayawan		114	15	
Bohol	Buenavista	81	12		Santa Catalina	292	26
	Clarin	41	7	Siaton	788	43	
	Getafe	198	68	Surigao del Norte – Surigao del Sur MKBA			
	Inabanga	144	22	Surigao del Norte	Bacuag	92	7
	Tubigon	396	26		Claver	103	43
Leyte	Bato	331	4		Gigaquit	84	7
	Baybay	345	42		Placer	69	41
	Hilongos	109	11		Surigao City	507	193
	Hindang	181	10	Tagana-an	211	1,389	
	Inopacan	348	10	Sulu Archipelago MKBA			
	Matalom	113	16	Tawi-Tawi	Bongao	762	106
S. Leyte	Maasin	272	22		Panglima Sugala	791	195
Lingayen Gulf MKBA			Sapa		794	85	
La Union	Agoo	83	6		Simunul	889	55
	Aringay	112	7		South Ubian	2,209	213
	Bauang	195	16	Tandubas	380	369	
	Caba	89	6	Verde Island Passage MKBA			
	Rosario	61	4	Batangas	Balayan	26	10
	San Fernando City	231	20		Bauan	127	14
	Santo Tomas	148	11		Calaca	39	10
Pangasinan	Alaminos	232	39		Calatagan	681	59
San Bernardino-Ticao Pass-Lagony Gulf MKBA			Lemery		44	9	
Sorsogon	Bulan	359	35		Mabini	158	27
	Matnog	226	51		San Luis	65	7
	Santa Magdalena	139	14		Taal	28	2
Northern Samar	Biri	543	52		Tingloy	393	44
	Capul	223	29				
	San Vicente	932	53				

Table 3. Main Relationship between Project Deliverables and Key Results

Tasks	Deliverables	Results	
		<p>Result A. An average of 10% increase in fisheries biomass across the eight MKBAs.</p> <p>Result B. A 10% increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management from a baseline established at the start of the project</p>	Final Outcomes
<p>Task 1. Establish and Implement a National Training Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Task 2. Provide Technical and Advisory Support at the National Level <p>Task 3. Create Public-Private Partnerships</p>	<p>Deliverable 1. Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change</p> <p>Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change</p> <p>Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs</p> <p>Deliverable 4: State of the Marine Resources Report</p> <p>Deliverable 5: National, Regional, and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted</p> <p>Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established</p>	<p>Result C. Establishment of a national capacity development program to enhance the capacities of LGUs and relevant national agencies to apply ecosystem-based approaches to fisheries management.</p> <p>Result D. Eight public-private partnerships supporting the objectives of the ECOFISH project created and operating</p>	Build Foundation
<p>Task 4. Provide Technical and Advisory Support at the Local Level</p> <p>Task 5. Develop a Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters</p> <p>Task 6. Identify and Implement Sustainable Financing Programs to Support EAFM Projects</p> <p>Task 7. Establish a Baseline on Coastal and Marine Resources and Relevant Socio-economic Information, Develop and Apply Metrics on Monitoring EAFM Implementation in Target MKBAs</p>	<p>Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs</p> <p>Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA- Specific Fish Species</p> <p>Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the 8 MKBAs</p> <p>Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the 8 MKBAs</p> <p>Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs</p> <p>Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs</p> <p>Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs</p> <p>Deliverable 14: Advanced Trainings in Specialized Fisheries Management for Inter-LGU Alliance</p>	<p>Result E. One million hectares of municipal marine waters under improved management.</p> <p>Result F. A core of 30 LGUs across the eight MKBAs with improved capacity for implementing ecosystem approaches to fisheries management.</p>	Implement Best Practices

3. General Work Plan Overview

Guided by the LOP Work Plan (ECOFISH Document No. 01/2013) and the Year 4 Annual Work Plan (ECOFISH Document No. 04/A/2015), this document describes the host of activities and interventions during the fourth year of ECOFISH Project implementation, from 01 October 2015 to 30 September 2016. Major thrusts for this period include the following:

- Primary focus on interventions at both the inter-LGU level and at the individual LGU level that will improve or trigger the improvement of their individual LGU benchmarks;
- Policies to be crafted will mostly be in support of site-level fisheries management interventions;
- Continue to focus on interventions that will serve as building blocks as well as directly influence the achievement of the final outcomes of the Project;
- Use baseline assessment and monitoring results as inputs to fisheries management plans and socio-economic interventions;
- Continue establishment of individual MPAs and strengthen networks of MPAs by developing network designs that incorporates mitigation of impacts of climate change and threats due to habitat-destructive fishing and pollution;
- Support LGUs in their implementation of FishR (National System on Fisherfolk Registration) and BoatR (National System on Municipal Fishing Boat Registration);
- Support BFAR in enhancing its capacity to store, retrieve, and analyze data from FishR, BoatR, and other related database systems;
- Accelerate the establishment of community partnerships and develop strategies for their sustainability and maintenance;
- Accelerate and expand enterprise development initiatives;
- Finalize, test, and roll out the Municipal Fisheries Management Start-Up Guide;
- Continue the development of market-based financing instruments; and
- Continue to integrate communication strategies into key interventions and expected results for sharing with a bigger and broader audience.

With the end of project looming in the horizon, the team tightened its Monitoring and Evaluation procedures to ensure right-on-time completion of deliverables. Field activities of the monitoring team became more frequent. Likewise, feedback on the results of the Midterm Performance Evaluation conducted in the previous year also allowed the project to refocus its activities to interventions that require more attention.

Figure 2 summarizes the general calendar of ECOFISH activities and interventions for the life of project showing a higher time resolution during the fourth year of project implementation. These activities and interventions were planned to culminate during specific periods and their scheduled year of completion are described in the LOP Work Plan.

Y1		Y2	Y3	Y4												Y5
				O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	
Start-up	EL										EL					
LOP work plan	EC										EC					
Consult with LGU	OT	Revisit LGUs									OT		Revisit LGUs			
	ON										ON					
	Baseline Assessment		Monitoring													Monitoring
Policy needs assessment		Policy forums, policy studies to integrate EAFM, MPA and CCA, enforcement, revenue generation, sustainable financing and Public-Private Partnership														
Training needs assessment		Training and capacity building activities including trainers' trainings and putting in place fisheries resources management interventions and mechanisms														
Training designs & EAFM curriculum																
		Registry of users of municipal waters														
		Network of MPA or fish sanctuary														
		Studies to support species specific or gear specific management														
		National database on EAFM														
		State of the marine resource report														
		Development of PPP portfolio														
		Establishment of private sector partnerships														
		Cost-benefit analysis of LGU fisheries management operations														
		Establishment of market-based instruments														
		Establishment of PES & other sustainable financing programs														
Early fisheries management actions		Fisheries management actions from the Inter-LGU Management Plan														
		Inter-LGU Fisheries and Coastal Resources Management Planning									Revisit Inter-LGU Management Plans					
											Advanced trainings in specialized fisheries management for inter-LGU alliance					

Figure 2. General Calendar of ECOFISH Activities and Interventions Highlighting Year 4 Major Activities.

4. Year 4 Accomplishments

Descriptions of the key activities/interventions under each of the 14 deliverables during the Year 4 of ECOFISH implementation are given below.

4.1. Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change

The focus of the policy support and capacity-building components for the first half of the Project was to build the foundation for working with government partners, primarily with BFAR at the national, regional, and provincial levels, as well as with the LGUs. This is to ensure that Project activities and outputs are aligned with the priorities of the partners and that they contribute significantly to national and local efforts to implement EAFM.

In Year 3, the Project began to focus on policy formulation at the MKBA and municipal levels, to help LGUs transition from early management interventions to EAFM. For Year 4, the Project provided further support to implement national policies at the local level through complementary local policies and ordinances, such as using FishR and BoatR data for marine spatial planning and ultimately for right-sizing of fishing effort, all under a comprehensive inter-LGU EAFM Plan.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 1.

Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Conduct studies on EAFM policies and policy implementation in providing an enabling environment for EAFM				
Support for national level policies including: - administrative adjudication procedures under the amendment of the Fisheries Code (RA 10654) - seasonal closure of small pelagics in the VIP and for several species of roundscads in Palawan - update of NFRDI research agenda (as requested by BFAR) - update of CNFIDP (priority of BFAR for 2016)	O	O	O	C
Support for preparation of local policies, as needed, on MSP, gear-/species-specific management, law enforcement, etc.	O	O	O	O
Conduct policy forums with relevant stakeholder groups (climate change impact on fisheries, administrative adjudication, commercial fishing boat registration, FADs, closed seasons)				
Regional forum on seasonal closure for small pelagics in VIP - continuation/ expansion of " <i>Pagpapahinga</i> "	C			
Policy forum on administrative adjudication rules and procedures *(discontinued)		O	*	

Conduct policy studies to integrate CTI themes, EAFM, MPAs, and climate change into existing policy instruments (climate smart MPA networks, resiliency of fishing livelihoods)				
Study on the impacts of the medium-term (2015-2020) seasonal closure for small pelagics in VIP: governance, socio-economic and biological aspects	O	O	O	O
Conduct policy studies on revenue generation, sustainable financing, and PPPs to support sustainable fisheries management				
Study on Implementation mechanism for user fees in Siargao Protected Area		O	O	O
Team Lead: Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist, Chief of Party Key Partners: BFAR, DA, DENR, DILG, NEDA, DTI, DOF, DOJ, DBM, LMP, NFR, NFARMC, commercial fishing sector				

Highlights Year 4 consist of activities that sustained the previous years' outputs and accomplishments from new initiatives:

- ECOFISH provided technical support to BFAR in the preparation of the implementing rules and regulations of the Fisheries Code as amended by RA 10654 particularly on provisions related to administrative adjudication. The IRR took effect on October 10, 2015. ECOFISH also prepared a user-friendly briefer on the new law and its IRR. ECOFISH continues to support BFAR in crafting specific regulations to implement the amended law, such as establishing harvest control rules;
- The project supported a Fisherfolk Summit in October 2015 and other regional forums to share information about the new law;
- ECOFISH provided technical and facilitation support for the updating of the Comprehensive National Fisheries Industry Development Plan at the request of BFAR. More than 500 participants representing all sectors of the fisheries industry and coastal local governments took part in the review and amendment process in successive workshops over three months. The updated CNFIDP was launched in February 3, 2016. At the launching event, BFAR gave USAID a plaque of appreciation for its continuing support to BFAR. Mr. Michael Klecheski, Deputy Chief of Mission of the US Embassy, received the award.
- The project held follow up forums and consultations in Batangas in January 2016 to assess the effectiveness of the seasonal closure on small pelagics in Balayan Bay (*Pagpapahinga ng Look ng Balayan*). The project reported on the overall impact of the program looking at the ecological, socio-economic, and governance aspects. ECOFISH shared the lessons on the closed seasons at the Philippine Association of Marine Science conference in October 2015;
- ECOFISH hosted a round table discussion with Jerry Bisson, USAID Director, Technical Services Office – Asia Bureau, UPMSI, WWF-Philippines, Conservation International, and Oceana-Philippines. The RTD discussed the state of environmental management in the Philippines and the initiatives and contribution of each institution/NGO;
- ECOFISH continued consultations on proposals for user fees in Siargao protected area, where the overlaps among the PAMB, Province, and LGUs can potentially complicate the collection system for the user fees;
- The project continues to provide local support for policy formulation and local legislation for partner LGUs to implement their marine spatial plans, fisherfolk, vessel, and gear registration

system, and resource use fees. The project provided LGU partners with template ordinances to translate their plans into local legislation and budgets;



Mr. Michael Klecheski (center), Deputy Chief of Mission of the US Embassy, joined DA Secretary Proceso Alcala, former DENR Secretary Angel Alcala, Senator Cynthia Villar, DA Undersecretary Asis Perez, and more than 500 representatives of the fishing industry, local government units, and civil society in pledging support for the implementation of the updated CNFIDP (2016-2020).

- The project remains committed to implementation of the Dedicated Alert Line for Ocean Biodiversity (DALOY) as it expands coverage nationwide, strengthening further the PPP between the PNP-Maritime Group and Smart Communications. ECOFISH participated in the International Summit on Innovative Strategies for Development in Manila and delivered a plenary talk about DALOY;
- Finally, ECOFISH worked with BFAR and NOAA to develop the Mainstreaming EAFM Program, which includes standardizing the EAFM planning process and implementing the process in priority fisheries management areas nationwide. BFAR issued Fisheries Office Order No. 164 to guide the implantation of the program.
- ECOFISH has met all targets relating to policy support. However, there are a number of remaining challenges that the project will continue to tackle in order to ensure sustainability of the gains in BFAR and partner LGU capacities for EAFM. These challenges include:
 - Administrative adjudication as a pillar of fisheries law enforcement - ECOFISH offered to provide BFAR technical assistance in preparing the procedural rules. However, BFAR decided to contract its own consultants to prepare these rules of procedure. The project will coordinate with BFAR to provide its inputs.
 - The change in administration has slowed the momentum to institutionalize EAFM planning nationwide, as the new administration determines its priorities and assignments of key personnel. ECOFISH is working with the newly appointed Director of BFAR to

push for the Mainstreaming EAFM Program as a continuation of the technical support partnership between NOAA, ECOFISH and BFAR.



4.2. Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change

In Year 3, ECOFISH completed the draft LGU Start-Up Guide, which is intended to be a user-friendly, informative, and activity-oriented tool for LGUs in implementing EAFM. The Start-Up Guide targets LGUs that are just beginning to think about a strategic and sustainable program for managing fisheries and coastal resources. It guides the LGU through ten activities that lead to the preparation of a simple and doable action plan for sustainable municipal fisheries.

For Year 4, ECOFISH was set to launch the LGU Start-Up Guide. However, the project decided to prioritize the completion of the EAFM Training Curriculum (under Deliverable 5) to

complement NOAA support for BFAR in conducting the Essential EAFM Training Course for all Provincial Fisheries Officers. The LGU Start-Up Guide will be launched in Year 5 instead. This will also give time for newly elected local chief executives to buckle down to work after the elections to focus on fisheries issues. The LGU Start-Up Guide and EAFM Training Curriculum include a separate volume of useful toolkits to guide the implementation of key activities.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 2.

Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Develop the Municipal Fisheries Management Toolkit series (update Volume 1, develop additional volumes)				
EAFM Start-up Guide for LGUs developed, published and launched		O	O	O
Develop municipal fisheries management toolkit to complement Start-Up Guide	O	O	O	O
Develop case studies on the integration of CTI themes (EAFM, MPAs, and CCA) at the site level				
Develop case studies on the integration of CTI themes on EAFM, MPAs, and climate change at the site level (target is 2 MKBAs)	O	O	O	O
Develop and produce Fishery Law Enforcement Procedural Handbook				
Finalization, testing and roll of the Fish Examiner's Training Manual	O	O	O	O
Produce fishery law enforcement instructional video				
Finalization, testing and roll out Fish Examiner's Training video	O	O	O	O
Team Lead: IEC Specialist, Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, Regulation and Enforcement Specialist, and MERF				
Key Partners: BFAR, DILG, PNP, LMP, university network, NFR				

Highlights of Year 4 consist of activities that sustained the previous years' outputs and accomplishments from new initiatives:

- The project has collated training materials and feedback from trainings on various aspects of fisheries management in order to come up with useful toolkits to complement the draft LGU Start-Up Guide. After the completion of the Toolkit volume, the Start-Up Guide can be launched and tested in partner LGUs, particularly those that will have a new set of elected officials in June 2016.
- The fish examiner's manual and video are in advanced development stage, after undergoing a peer review in February 2016.
- ECOFISH engaged case studies writers to document best practices in the eight MKBAs. After consulting with the site coordinators and partners, the case studies selected for development are outlined in Annex 1.

4.3. Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs

In Year 3, the protocol for data entry was finalized and the catch monitoring system harmonized with that of NSAP. The data collection system of NSAP (National Stock Assessment Program) is designed to capture both the commercial and municipal fishing operations while that of ECOFISH is focused on the municipal capture fisheries in the focal areas. The basic parameters being measured by both monitoring schemes are practically the same and ECOFISH's fish catch data can easily be integrated into the NSAP database.

In Year 4 of project implementation, the team has developed an initial protocol for integrating identified EAFM-related information coming from various fisheries management initiatives in the country. This consolidated set of information is intended to feed into the State of the Marine Resources Report (SMRR). The overall general principle being followed is for all the project databases to feed into the national database, and that the Project should not create its own customized database.

The project team finalized documents for ECOFISH's assistance to augment BFAR's data management capacity through the special activity fund. This assistance intends to support BFAR to establish the national database on EAFM and enhance BFAR's capacity for acquiring and processing information from its previous regular programs, primarily data generated from FishR, BoatR, FLEMIS, and PhilCatch. It likewise intends to expand BFAR's database system to incorporate NSAP field data and research studies and results of NFRDI, and these will in turn feed into the national database on EAFM and the SMRR.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 3.

Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Develop protocols for fish catch monitoring system to become part of the National Stock Assessment Program				
Finalize agreement on relevant sets of information with NSAP and incorporate into the National Database and SMRR	O	O	O	O
Conduct training on the national database system				
Conduct training on the national EAFM database with national and MKBA partners	O	O	O	O
Team Lead: Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, GIS-KIM Specialist, Senior Resource Economics Specialist, Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist, MERF Key Partners: BFAR, DILG, LMP, DENR				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments:

- Finalized agreement with BFAR's Fisheries and Information Management System (FIMS) team regarding the elements of ECOFISH's assistance to augment its data management capacity through special activity fund.
- Finalized elements of data management package and technical support towards establishment of protocols for management of fisheries data, including FishR, BoatR, FLEMIS, PhilCatch, and NSAP.
- Developed initial design for the conduct of training on the national EAFM database with national and MKBA partners to be tested during the second half of Year 4.

4.4. Deliverable 4: State of the Marine Resources Report

In Year 3 ECOFISH, through MERF, conducted review sessions and workshops with partners to draft various sections of the State of the Marine Resource Report (SMRR) and came up with the first consolidated draft. In collaboration with NSAP, ECOFISH conducted a training of data analysts of NSAP to revisit and standardize procedures for estimation of fish population parameters and status of fish stocks. These sets of information already form part of the SMRR and are intended to be updated on a regular basis. In Year 4, MERF finalized the draft and partners from the eight MKBAs reviewed it. It will undergo another round of edits for final approval and adoption by national partners.

The box below summarizes the status (O-ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 4.

Deliverable 4: State of the Marine Resources Report				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Prepare State of the Marine Resources Report				
Conduct sessions with the national partners to discuss and agree on the adoption and regular updating of the report	O	O	O	O
Team Lead: Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, GIS-KIM Specialist, Senior Resource Economics Specialist, Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist, MERF Key Partners: BFAR, DENR, LMP, university network, WWF				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments:

- Final draft of the SMRR submitted by MERF for final approval and adoption by partners
- Final draft of the SMRR presented to partners, co-authors, and stakeholders in a validation workshop for review and updating. Impact and Response components of the PSIR framework as adopted by the State of Marine Resources Report were identified during the workshop and subsequently incorporated in the draft report.
- The workshop to present and discuss the draft with partners, co-authors, and stakeholders was moved to the later part of the year due to national election in May 2016. MERF

facilitated the workshop and further improved the draft for final presentation with national partners.

4.5 Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted

For Year 4, ECOFISH continued with the trainings important in building the foundations for EAFM, primarily trainings on socio-economic and biological assessments, constituency building and conflict management, MPA networks, boat and gear registration systems, law enforcement, local legislation, administrative adjudication, and marine spatial planning. The overarching objective of the trainings is to help LGUs transition from the success of its early management interventions into a comprehensive EAFM program. ECOFISH also initiated training for LGUs in selected focal areas on fisheries right-sizing.

ECOFISH has adapted the Essential EAFM Training Course developed by NOAA, CTI, and others for use in the Philippines. The Philippine version (Mainstreaming EAFM Planning Process) departs from a training course platform to a guide for conducting a stakeholders' EAFM planning process. The focus of the process is preparing a workable and realistic EAFM plan that stakeholders can rally behind to implement. The output EAFM Plan will cover a fisheries management area at an ecologically meaningful scale. It will guide BFAR in aligning its regular programs and budget to support the identified strategies and management actions. The LGUs will likewise align their local policies, programs, and budgets to implement the plan in their respective jurisdictions. The M-EAFM Planning Process will include specific Philippine context and examples to help stakeholders prepare the management actions appropriate for their fisheries management area. In Year 5, ECOFISH will facilitate the M-EAFM planning process in the Ticao Pass-San Bernardino Strait-Lagonoy Gulf MKBA.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 5.

Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Training Conducted				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Develop a national training curriculum (EAFM Training Course for the Philippines)				
Finalize and publish EAFM Training Curriculum for the Philippines	O	O	C	
Develop or refine training courses				
Finalize and publish training courses (integrated into the Training Curriculum)	O	O	O	O
Deliver training courses for national government, LGUs, NGOs, and university network in MKBAs (at least 4/MKBA)				

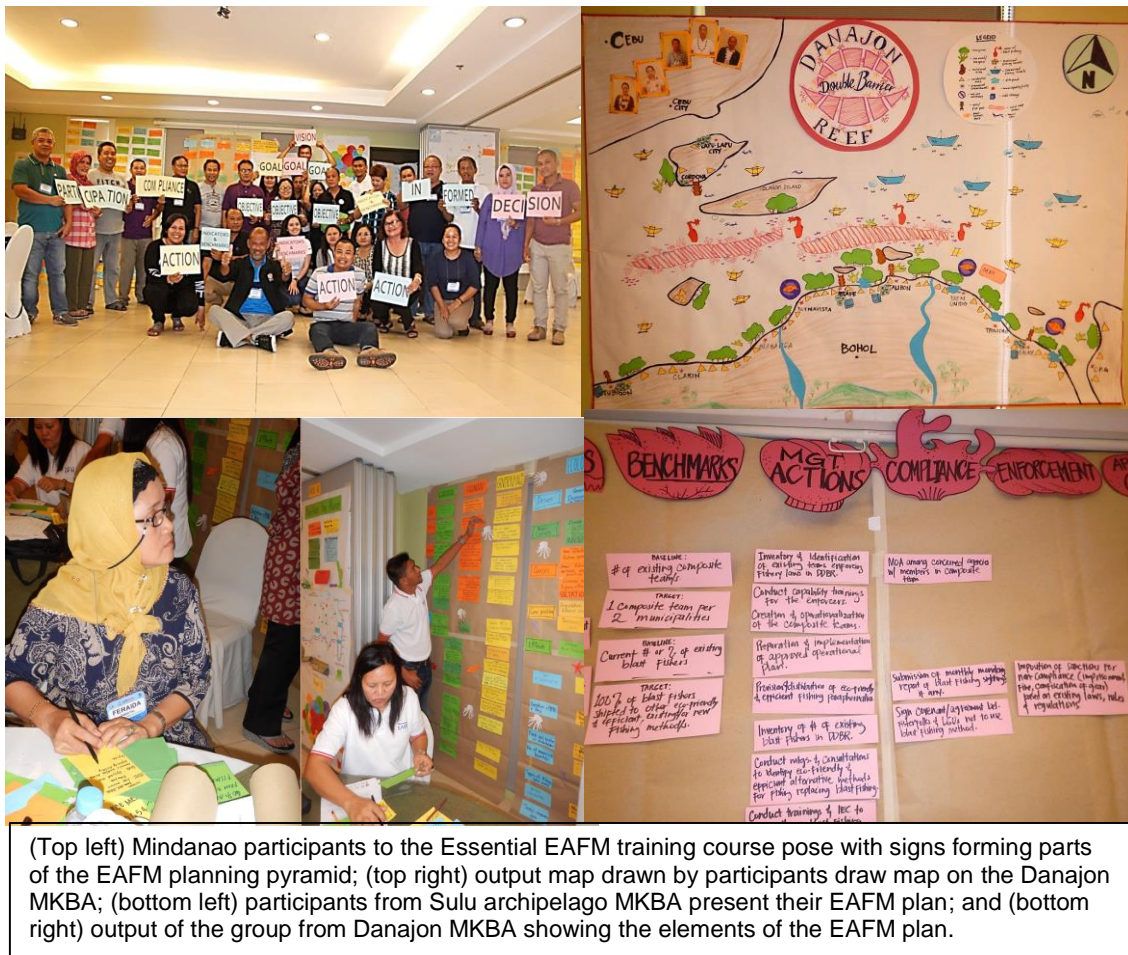
Deliver training courses for national government, LGUs, NGOs, and university networks (in at least 4 MKBAs) including socio-economic and biological monitoring assessments, constituency building/conflict management, MPA networks, boat/gear registration systems, law enforcement, fish examiner, local legislation/administrative adjudication, marine spatial planning, and right-sizing of fishing effort	O	O	O	O
Conduct training series for National Quick Response Team on fishery law enforcement				
Conduct training series for National Quick Response Team on fishery law enforcement in general and specific fish examiner trainer's training	O	O	O	O
Conduct training series for MKBA Quick Response Team on fishery law enforcement				
Conduct training series for MKBA Quick Response Team on fishery law enforcement, fish examiner's training, basic/advance law enforcement)	O	O	O	O
Team Lead: Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist, IEC Specialist, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist Key Partners: BFAR, DENR, PCG, PNP, NFARMC and LMP				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 5 during the reporting period include:

- The entire team conducted training courses for national government, LGUs, NGOs, and university networks that include socio-economic and biological monitoring assessments, constituency building, conflict management, MPA networks, boat and gear registration systems, law enforcement, fish examiner, local legislation, administrative adjudication, marine spatial planning, and right-sizing of fishing effort. The thematic focus of the training and their corresponding frequencies (number) conducted during the reporting period are as follow:

Thematic Focus	Number
Fisheries Assessment	2
Coastal Law Enforcement	8
EAFM Training	1
Social Enterprise Development	2
Fisheries Resource Management	4
Governance and Institutional Development	2
Marine Protected Area	4
Marine Spatial Planning	5
Public-Private Partnership (Community Partnership)	3
Total	31

- At the request of BFAR, NOAA is conducting a series of Essential EAFM Training Course trainings in April for all BFAR provincial fishery officials. ECOFISH worked with NOAA to adapt the training course for use in the Philippines by incorporating Philippine context and examples. The revised materials will be further developed after the trainings and launched in tandem with the LGU Start-up Guide. The NOAA-facilitated trainings included participants from ECOFISH MKBAs.



- Several enforcement trainings and workshops were conducted in the project sites. In Surigao MKBA, levels 1, 2, and 3 trainings for members of the Quick Response Team (QRT) of BFAR Caraga Region were conducted. The enforcement trainings in Surigao prompted the discussion on the formation of the Anti-Illegal Fishing Task Force. The enforcement training in Lingayen, on the other hand, has provided venue to review the Executive Order for the La Union Bay Watch.
- In Calamianes Island Group MKBA, the Paralegal Training led to the operation of the fishery law enforcers that resulted in the arrest of illegal fishers and the confiscation of their boats.
- The LGU of Prieto Diaz, Sorsogon requested the assistance of ECOFISH in providing resource persons during the Training on Fishery Law Enforcement for their new Bantay Dagat members and selected PNP members. The participants were deputized by the Mayor after the training.
- In preparation for the fishery law enforcement training in Northern Samar, ECOFISH coordinated with the PNP for the Leahy Vetting process. Selected personnel assigned in the municipalities of Biri, Capul, and San Vicente will participate in the training.
- ECOFISH also provided inputs during the two-day Regional Orientation-Seminar on the establishment of Police Environment Desk Office (PEDO) in Region 5.

- Trainings on right-sizing of fishing effort were initiated in the Calamianes Island Group, Danajon Reef, and Surigao del Norte MKBAs. Through a combination of learning activities (such as games, simulation workshops) and lectures, the participants were familiarized on the ecosystems approach to fisheries management (EAFM), as well as foundation concepts and principles in fish stock assessment and trophic dynamics in marine ecosystems. The right-sizing of fishing effort was then introduced as a tool in EAFM for prioritizing management objectives – maximizing ecosystem structure, fisheries profits, fisher jobs, or a combination thereof – and optimizing the corresponding benefits via fishing effort reallocation using the MKBAs’ respective trophic system models (under Deliverable 8). Schedules for the respective right-sizing workshops to determine appropriate fishing effort configuration (under Deliverable 10) were decided by the partners after the training.

4.6. Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established

The Public-Private Partnership (PPP) component of the project focused on the remainder of its target PPPs, continued implementing and sustaining ongoing strategic partnerships, as well as concluding a number of partnerships. The team also rolled out community partnership to support enterprise development in selected sites.

In Year 4, ECOFISH established a partnership with PACPI (Philippine Association of Crab Processors, Inc.), BFAR Region 7, the Provincial Government of Bohol, and municipal LGUs for the management of blue crabs (*Portunus pelagicus*) in Danajon Reef. The provincial government and the participating municipalities and ECOFISH will continue working with PACPI to conduct another round of monitoring of blue crabs fisheries assessment, this time to monitor the effects of management interventions. ECOFISH has secured the support of the PNP and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) towards the adoption and expansion of DALOY 3456 to further institutionalize the hotline. ECOFISH worked with PNP-MG, Smart, and other partners to upgrade the system to be able to accommodate reports from other networks.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 6.

Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Develop portfolio of PPPs				
Execute at least eight (8) strategic partnerships	O	O	O	O
Consolidate the PPP strategy and enterprise development strategy	O	C		
Continue providing technical support to ongoing strategic and community partnerships	O	O	O	O
Establish private sector partnerships				
Develop at least twenty (100) community partnerships	O	O	O	C

Conduct scoping/diagnostics, trainings, Grassroot Participatory Budgetting Process support and formalization	O	C		
Provided support for enterprise development	O	O	O	O
Team Lead : SSG Advisors Partnership Specialist, SSG Advisors Community Partnership Specialist				
Key Partners: BFAR, private sector, LGUs				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 6 during the reporting period include:

- USAID, through the ECOFISH Project and its partners, DOST-ICT Office and Microsoft, was awarded the 2015 P3 Impact Award for its “TV White Space Supported Fisherfolk Registration” Partnership. Hosted by the United States Department of State, Concordia, and the University of Virginia Darden School of Business, was recognized for its innovation in addressing a problem in fisheries management—fisherfolk registration in remote areas—through the use of technology, besting twenty other partnerships.
- The “Species Specific Assessment and Pilot of the Spawning Potential Ratio Method Towards the Sustainable Management of Blue Swimming Crab” partnership between the Province of Bohol, the Philippine Association of Crab Processors, Inc. (PACPI), and ECOFISH was conducted. To leverage the gains from the positive result of the assessment, further training on sustainable blue swimming crab management practices will be conducted with the support of BFAR-Region 7. In February 2016, 17 holding cages for berried blue swimming crabs were set-up under the partnership and as a spin-off, BFAR, PACPI, and the LGUs are now exploring a pilot gear swap as a means to consolidate and improve gains made in managing blue swimming crabs
- An enhanced version of the DALOY was commissioned and prototyped by Smart Communications according to the specifications requested by the PNP-MG and to the proposed changes from feedback by users. A soft launch was held at the PNP Regional Maritime Unit 11 on March 15, 2016, with USAID Philippines Mission Director Dr. Susan Brems as guest of honor. The precursor hotline 700DALOY was also a finalist for the USAID RDMA “Harnessing Data for Resiliency” Award.
- Recognizing the need for BFAR to establish a comprehensive national system for organizing several databases for fisheries related information, the BFAR-Fisheries Information Management Center (FIMC) teamed up with ECOFISH. In the 3rd quarter of 2015, BFAR-FIMC and ECOFISH co-designed a data management capacity package complete with technical specifications on hardware, software, and basic data management protocols towards consolidating FishR, BoatR, FLEMIS, and PhilCatch databases under an EAFM database. As of March 2016, ECOFISH started the selection process for bidders for the SAF and will choose one IT provider out of three applicants, where a PPP will be established between the provider and BFAR to extend discounts, favorable warranties, maintenance arrangements, and technical support for assessing and developing the standard data management protocols and capacity for BFAR-FIMC.
- A meeting between ECOFISH and the USAID RDMA Oceans project was held to discuss potential collaboration to leverage the upcoming EAFM database for its ongoing work to support the establishment a Catch Documentation and Traceability System (CDTS) that is

compliant with the ASEAN CDTs and draft US regulation on Seafood Importation Monitoring.

- A partnership was developed between ECOFISH and PEMSEA towards conducting MSP for Batangas Province, a priority site with major investments for both groups. On March 14, 2016, a writeshop was organized in Batangas City to commence the process of jointly updating the MSP training manual, as well as provide new case studies for the deployment of MSP trainings in Batangas Province.
- Two students have been deployed in the Calamianes and the Verde Island Passage with selected community partners for immersion and capacity building programs. Since then, training modules have been developed and the beneficiaries have delivered key documents and plans that are now being executed as a means to develop social enterprises.
- A series of organizational diagnosis and capacity building activities was conducted in support of training existing people's organizations and social enterprise candidates in Lingayen Gulf and San Bernardino. Consolidation activities for community partners in Calamianes and Verde Island Passage were also conducted.
- At least 103 letters of commitment from 103 community partners overall engaged and capacitated by the PPP team of the ECOFISH Project were secured

4.7. Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs

Monitoring events were conducted in Year 3. In Year 4, results of these assessments are being communicated to partners, particularly at the local level. Fisheries, socioeconomic, MPA, enforcement, and governance baseline information are being integrated into the fisheries profiles of each MKBA.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 7.

Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Conduct socio-economic monitoring				
Feedback of socioeconomic monitoring results to NGAs and LGUs in respective MKBAs for use as inputs to plans, policies and guidance to stakeholders	O	O	O	C
Use results for refining establishment of social enterprises and other socio-economic interventions of the Project	O	O	O	C
Team Lead: Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist. Key Partners: BFAR, LMP, MKBA LGUs				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 7 during the reporting period include:

- Around 20,000 catch and effort data were collected in the focal areas of the eight MKBAs during the Year 3 (2015) monitoring event. The data will be used to not only estimate catch rates, but also include other information, such as catch composition and relative sizes of abundant species.
- Reef fish biomass, coral cover, and species richness data were also collected in more than 240 sampling stations in MPAs predetermined during the baseline assessment conducted in 2013
- 4,727 households interviewed from the eight MKBAs in Year 1 were revisited and interviewed again to establish trends for socio-economic parameters and update profiles of fishing households.
- Summary tables and figures by MKBA were prepared and, together with enforcement and governance parameters, are now being reported back to the LGUs and partners for use in updating their FRM plans and in formulating their marine spatial plans.
- The fisheries, MPA, socioeconomic and enforcement monitoring data are also being used as inputs to other project activities and interventions in the various MKBAs.
- In addition to almost 5 thousand households, the project conducted baseline surveys for the direct beneficiaries of its social enterprise development component. Surveys were set up to cover around 2,600 households that will be the direct participants of social enterprises being set up in the eight MKBAs.

4.8. Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species

In Year 4, the project has refined the MSP tool by including net economic values as part of the considerations in prioritizing spatially overlapping and conflicting uses. Direct use values for each type of zone allowed in the various Marine Spatial Plans were estimated. Data for most MKBAs has been collected, and estimated economic values has been calculated, and presented to LGUs partners for validation.

Results of the value chain studies were presented to various LGUs and partners across the eight MKBAs. Results were utilized by partners to guide them in the establishment of social enterprises in selected communities, e.g. sea cucumber ranching in CIG and mud crab fattening in Surigao del Norte and also to identify management interventions for fishery resources like the blue crab in Danajon Reef, tuna in Negros, and sardines in San Bernardino Strait.

The working trophic system models for the Calamianes Island Group, Danajon Reef, Surigao del Norte, and Sulu Archipelago MKBAs were updated and refined using the results of the fisheries and socio-economic baseline assessment and monitoring. Preliminary site-specific simulations of fishing effort configuration scenarios were likewise developed. These scenarios are being used as starting points for stakeholder consultations in the right-sizing of fishing effort (under Deliverable 10). The development of trophic system models for the Verde Island Passage, Lingayen Gulf, South Negros Island, and Ticao Pass-San Bernardino-Lagonoy Gulf MKBAs are now underway with the updated fisheries information that were provided by the supplemental fisheries inventory surveys in these areas.

In Year 4, the project assisted LGUs in South Negros Island to conduct preliminary key informant surveys focusing on the beach seine fisheries in the area. The survey outcomes were used as starting point for consultation with stakeholders, including beach seine fishers and operators, to agree on a basic monitoring strategy for beach seine landings, and subsequently use the information to inform possible management and regulatory actions.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 8.

Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Determine and establish trophic interactions and appropriate fishing effort configuration using Ecopath model				
Update and refinement of trophic models of the former FISH sites (4 MKBAs: Danajon Reef, Calamianes Island Group, Surigao del Norte, Tawi-tawi)	O	O	O	C
Develop various choice scenarios on effort configuration for the focal areas of the 4 MKBAs (Danajon Reef, Calamianes Island Group, Surigao del Norte, Tawi-tawi)	O	O	O	O
Develop trophic models for the focal areas of the other 4 MKBAs (VIP, San Bernardino - Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf, Lingayen Gulf, South Negros)		O	O	O
Identify species-specific or fishing gear studies based on results of baseline assessment (in new MKBA focal areas)				
Finalize species-specific or gear-specific interventions with partners.	O	O	O	O
Determine economic values and perform cost-benefit analysis in MKBA focal area LGUs (same as in Deliverable 12)				
Collect baseline information on CRM revenues and expenditures per LGU.	O	O	O	C
Refine MSP criteria to include net economic values of various uses	O	O	O	O
Present results of value chain studies for each MKBA	O	O	C	
Use results for further work on policy and/or enterprise development	O	O	O	O
Team Lead: Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, MERF, Senior Resource Economics Specialist Key Partners: BFAR, SEAFDEC, University network (SAF may be used to support these institutions)				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 8 during the reporting period:

- The MSP tool is now being refined to include a layer of economic valuation. Data gathering for direct use values is now almost complete.
- Value chain results have been shared with most MKBAs. Some results are now feeding into other project interventions, such as enterprise development and policy development.

- Results of the MSP valuation were tested in South Negros. LGUs expressed interest in making use of the economic values in their planning and policy work, particularly on the determination of penalties and fines for potential violations of zoning ordinances. This was replicated in three other MKBAs and will be completed by 1st quarter of the 5th year of project implementation.
- Four trophic system base models have been developed, three of which are already being used as platforms to develop fishing effort configuration scenarios in the right-sizing of fishing effort trainings and consultation workshops.
- Consultations were successfully conducted with beach seine fishers and operators in South Negros Island. Representatives from the fisher groups and the concerned LGUs were likewise trained in basic fish catch monitoring and data recording in preparation for a beach seine fisheries catch monitoring. However, the scheduled monitoring was postponed due to the May 2016 election-related activities in the respective localities. Nevertheless, talks are underway to formalize the commitment of the Southern Negros Coastal Development Management Council (SNCDMC) to fund the beach seine fisheries survey.
- The MSP tool is now being refined to include a layer of economic valuation. Data gathering for direct use values is now almost complete.
- Value chain results have been shared with most MKBAs. Some results are now feeding into other project interventions such as enterprise development and policy development.
- ECOFISH technical team trained local partners in gathering and analysis of required scientific information to arrive at appropriate management recommendations on the appropriate use and management beach seine operation in Southern Negros MKBA.
- Catch and gonad development monitoring of “lawlaw” (*Sardinella lemuru*), the species selected for scientific study, in fish landings in San Vicente, Bulan, and Pilar, has been extended to June 2016 due to the continued presence of gravid individuals.

4.9. Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs

In Year 3, ECOFISH through MERF, has completed the dispersal models for the other four MKBAs and the preparation for the conduct of hydrodynamic and dispersal modeling for the focal area for Surigao del Norte MKBA is underway. The focal area in this MKBA was moved from Lanuza Bay in Surigao del Sur to the alliance of LGUs in Surigao del Norte as requested by BFAR Caraga Region.

Focus on the design of the MPA networks that will incorporate climate change adaptation schemes and mitigation strategies to risks brought about by destructive fishing and pollution started in Year 4. In November 2015, ECOFISH field staff and selected local partners underwent a training workshop conducted by MERF and UPMSI to learn MPA network design concepts, understand ecological principles governing MPAs and MPA network designs, and apply the concepts and principles to ECOFISH site conditions.

The team developed a case study to demonstrate the application of ecological, social, and governance principles to MPA and network of MPA designing process. The Danajon Reef MPA network was chosen as the pilot study area and a two-day training workshop was conducted with local partners in March 2016. The designing process was documented and this was replicated in

South Negros MKBA in July 2016. The same activity will be further replicated in the other MKBAs in the remaining life of the project.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 9.

Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Conduct hydrodynamic study and dispersal modeling				
Conduct hydrodynamic study and dispersal models for the focal area of Surigao del Norte	O	O	O	O
Develop MPA network design (includes climate change adaptation strategies)				
Training (trainers' training) of site teams in MPA network design incorporating climate change adaptation schemes and mitigation strategies to risks brought about by destructive fishing and pollution	C			
Training of local partners in the MKBAs in MPA network design incorporating climate change adaptation schemes and mitigation strategies to risks brought about by destructive fishing and pollution	O	O	O	O
Establish MPA network in new MKBAs				
Conduct partner consultations and meetings to set up component MPAs as part of the network with focus on municipalities in the focal area of San Bernardino Strait and expanded focal area in Tawi-Tawi	O	O		
Develop plan to implement component MPAs including tasking, and financing	O	O		
Strengthen MPA networks in existing MKBA focal areas				
Develop customized capacity building program for MPA networks to promote compliance and enforce regulations (continuing activities).	O	O		
Team Lead: GIS-KIM Specialist, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, MERF				
Key Partners: BFAR, University network (SAF may be used to support local colleges)				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 9 during the reporting period include:

- Training workshop conducted by MERF and UPMSI to introduce the MPA network design concepts, discussed ecological principles governing MPAs and MPA network designs, and apply the concepts and principles to ECOFISH site conditions.
- The MPA team, supported by Dr. Kitty Courtney, developed a case study to demonstrate the application of ecological, social, and governance principles to MPA and network of MPA designing process. The case study involved a tabletop geospatial analysis, a workshop to test the methodology, and documentation of the process and results. A standard guide or manual is currently being developed for use in other focal ecosystems of the ECOFISH Project and in projects of interested institutions. The applicability of the process was tested in the Danajon Reef and South Negros Island network of MPAs.

- Six MPA Guards trainings were conducted from December 2015 to February 2016 in the following projects sites: Calamianes Island Group, Lingayen Gulf, Surigao del Norte, and Southern Negros. The MPA Guard trainings provided the participants with knowledge and strategies on how to effectively protect their respective marine protected areas.

4.10. Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs

In Year 3, the project team accomplished inter-LGU fisheries management planning to cover the majority of focal areas of the eight MKBAs. The planning workshops were conducted during the feedbacking of baseline assessment results to partners. The team facilitated the identification of inter-LGU fisheries management initiatives and individual LGUs' specific coastal resources management initiatives with the baseline assessment results as foundation for planning. These formed the backbone of the Fisheries Management Plans of the inter-LGU alliances. Soon after, the Inter-LGU Fisheries Management Plans for the cluster of municipalities constituting the focal areas of five MKBAs were drafted.

The inter-LGU FRM planning was done in parallel with the establishment and strengthening of the inter-LGU enforcement teams, including the strengthening of their regulatory and compliance capabilities. To consolidate the various efforts, ECOFISH continued to assist these clusters of LGUs in developing their water and fisheries use zoning plans through Marine Spatial Planning. Then the team developed the design for right-sizing of fishing effort in these LGUs. This happened in the first half of Year 4. Orientation and consultation workshops with selected LGU clusters will be initiated in the second half of Year 4 to establish their fishing effort configurations, following a series of LGU and stakeholder consultations. These configurations will then be incorporated into their respective plans.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 10.

Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Conduct integrated coastal and fisheries management planning for cluster of municipalities or LGU alliances				
Continue activities to revive or strengthen inter-LGU CFRM initiatives in the 8 MKBAs	O	O	O	O
Continue inter-LGU planning process to cover all focal areas in the 8 MKBAs	O	O	O	O
Provide technical support in the establishment of coastal and fisheries law enforcement teams (new sites)				
Conduct courses on fishery law enforcement as step in establishing enforcement teams and inter-LGU enforcement teams	O	O	O	O

Provide technical support to strengthen coastal and fisheries law enforcement teams (former FISH sites)				
Continue the conduct of courses on fishery law enforcement as step in strengthening enforcement teams and inter-LGU enforcement teams	O	O	O	O
Build/strengthen inter-LGU regulatory compliance and enforcement capabilities				
Establish or strengthen inter-LGU enforcement arrangements	O	O	O	O
Conduct joint operations planning for cluster or alliance of LGUs	O	O	O	O
Develop marine spatial zoning plan				
Assist cluster of LGUs in reviving, updating or strengthening of zoning plans (in FISH Project sites)	O	O	O	O
Assist cluster of LGUs in developing the marine spatial zoning plan (in the rest of the other sites)	O	O	O	O
Establish appropriate fishing effort configuration for focal areas in the MKBAs				
Consultation with focal area LGUs on the appropriate fishing effort configuration for focal areas of at least two MKBAs			O	O
Utilize registration and licensing information in managing fishing effort (integrated into the management plans)				
Consultation with focal area LGUs on use of fishing effort configuration as input to registration and licensing in managing fishing effort			O	O
Team Lead: DCOP for Operation, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Specialist, Regulation and Enforcement Specialist				
Key Partners: BFAR regional and provincial offices, provincial governments and PNP				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 10 during the reporting period include:

- ECOFISH completed the Inter-LGU Fisheries Management Plans (IFRM) for the LGU alliance of South Negros, the focal area municipalities in Surigao del Norte, Bohol municipalities of Danajon Reef, and the Calamianes Island Group municipalities. The IFRM Plans for VIP, Lingayen Gulf, Ticao Pass-San Bernardino-Lagonoy Gulf (Region 5 cluster of LGUs), and Tawi-tawi are in preparation.
- In Danajon Reef, the LGUs have incorporated their updated municipal water zoning plans within their respective CRM Codes or comprehensive municipal fisheries ordinances, which underwent timely review and updating. In the Calamianes Island Group, the municipal water use plans of the four focal LGUs have been adopted by the Environmentally Critical Areas Network (ECAN) of Palawan as integral in its overall zoning strategy. The zoning plans for the focal area municipalities of the rest of the MKBAs are under various stages of development.
- In Tawi-Tawi, ECOFISH provided support to the provincial government in convening the members of Tawi-Tawi Illegal Fishing Task Force headed by Governor Nurbert Sahali. During the meeting, Gov. Sahali proposed the inclusion of other concerned government agencies and academe in the task force and asked the assistance of ECOFISH to provide the members of the task force with skills trainings related to fishery law enforcement.
- ECOFISH was given the tasked by the Technical Working Group (TWG) of Sorsogon in convening and strengthening the IFARMC in the Pacific Side covering the municipalities of

Prieto Diaz, Gubat, Bulusan, Sta. Magdalena, Matnog and Bulan. Initial discussion with the mayors of Prieto Diaz and Sta. Magdalena has been conducted during which their assistance was requested in convening the members of the Pacific Side IFARMC.

- The LGU of Del Carmen requested the assistance of ECOFISH in the conduct of a roundtable discussion (RTD) to find solution to address the issue of danish seine or *liba-liba* operations in the municipal waters. Danish seine is prohibited under Republic Act No. 8550 otherwise known as the Fisheries Code of the Philippines. Representatives of the LGUs of Del Carmen, Provincial Agriculturist Office, MFARMCs, NGO, PNP-PPO, PNPMG, Coast Guard, and the members of QRT BFAR Caraga Region participated in the RTD.
- The first right-sizing workshop was conducted in the Danajon Reef MKBA. LGU technical staff, representatives of the Sanggunian, Bantay Dagat, FARMC, and the academe participated in the workshop. They determined the MKBA-wide fishing effort configuration targets using the Danajon Reef trophic system model and fishing effort reallocation simulations. At the end of the workshop, each member LGU has put a cap on the number of fishing gear types in accordance with the agreed MKBA-wide targets. The outputs were presented to the local chief executives to inspire them to commit to fisheries right-sizing.

Unplanned activities:

- ECOFISH, in collaboration with the PNP-MG conducted the first PNP-MG-NGO Dialogue on March 17, 2016, at Camp Crame. This activity brought together representatives of maritime police and nine environment and fisheries NGOs. The dialogue sought to foster a collaboration between PNP-MG and NGOs in protecting fisheries and coastal marine resources.

4.11. Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs

In Year 3, ECOFISH provided support to BFAR in developing a national program for boat and gear registration to complement the earlier program on fisherfolk registration. In Year 4, ECOFISH continued to support BFAR in rolling out the implementation of BoatR, including the conduct of trainings in the Project's MKBAs. ECOFISH likewise continues to assist LGUs that want to develop new or updated fisheries management ordinances that include provisions on fisheries registration and licensing to complement BFAR programs.

ECOFISH continued to support the implementation of FishR in the MKBAs. This included regular monitoring of the progress of partner LGUs in registering the fisherfolk in their area and sending feedback to BFAR in case of problems.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 11.

Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs		
Project Intervention/Activity		2016

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Registration and licensing training, and drafting of ordinance				
Registration and licensing training and drafting of municipal ordinances to enable LGUs implement and support FishR and BoatR.	O	O	O	O
Registration systems component of national database developed and deployed to LGUs				
Develop data acquisition and retrieval system for LGUs to make use of the information generated from FishR and BoatR.	O	O	O	O
Training on use of registration system in each MKBA for management				
Training on the use of registration system (FishR and BoatR) in each MKBA for use in the management of the fisheries.			O	O
Team Lead: Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist. Key Partners: BFAR, LMP, MKBA LGUs				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments:

- Registration and licensing provisions are already included in existing ordinances and proposed ordinances of LGU partners in the MKBAs. There is no need to propose ordinances for registration and licensing in these LGUs as indicated in the workplan.
- ECOFISH decided to defer a complementary effort to develop a separate boat and gear registration system for LGUs when BFAR planned to launch a boat and gear registration program. To support the initiative, the team provided technical support in developing the system as well as technical assistance in BoatR trainings conducted in the MKBAs.

4.12. Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs

Results of WTP studies in CIG, South Negros, San Bernardino Strait, and Lingayen Gulf were presented to LGUs and other stakeholders. Local ordinances establishing user fees are now being drafted to incorporate the results of the studies.

For the special case of the ancestral domain of the Tagbanuas in Coron Island, the project is continuing to provide technical assistance in drafting their business plan for the tourist attractions in their ancestral domain. Financial processes have been documented, strategic plans formulated and their business plan is being finalized. Another special case is Siargao Island in Surigao del Norte MKBA, where user fees recommended by the project will be implemented by the Protected Area Management Bureau (PAMB) of Siargao Protected Landscape.

Focus group discussions for assessing and updating auxiliary invoice taxes and tourist user fees were conducted in Lingayen Gulf, Danajon Bank, and VIP LGUs. For LGUs with existing ordinances, collection, and disbursement schemes are being assessed, that is, if the unit amounts are appropriately determined so that they will result in revenues, if revenues are being collected efficiently, and if collections are being used to fund fisheries management. Success stories were shared in the hopes of being replicated in neighboring LGUs.

The assistance currently provided for increasing fisherfolk access to Bottom-Up-Budgeting funds has resulted in a number of local projects related to sustainable fisheries management being approved and implemented. Most of the data requirements of the cost-benefit analysis on fisheries management operations has been collected. Results will be analyzed and will feed into the refinement of the MSP tool (see Deliverable 8).

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 12.

Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Cost-benefit analysis of LGU operations involved in fisheries management				
Tease out revenues and expenditures directly attributed to fisheries management for all focal LGUs	O	O	O	C
Institute market-based financing instruments				
Enhance user fee schemes in TTCIA CADT in Coron	O	O	O	O
Set up user fee schemes and local ordinances for South Negros, Siargao, Lingayen Gulf, San Bernardino Strait and Calamianes Island Group	O	O	O	O
Assess and/or establish auxiliary invoice taxes in other focal LGUs where tourist entrance fees are not viable	O	O	O	O
Facilitate larger access to national government budgets through BuB				
Coordinate with BuB process at the local level	O	O	O	O
Liaise with national government agencies involved in the BuB process.	O	O	O	O
Link BuB proposals with IFRM business plans	O	O	O	O
Team Lead: Senior Resource Economist, REECS, and SSG				
Key Partners: BFAR, LMP, LPP, LGUs				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 12 during the reporting period include:

- Tourism user fees are now being translated into ordinances in CIG, Siargao, South Negros, Lingayen Gulf, and San Bernardino Strait
- FGDs on revenue generating schemes were conducted in Lingayen Gulf, VIP, and Danajon Bank
- For Sulu Archipelago, user fees will be established contingent upon the establishment/ updating of MPA ordinances
- TTCIA financial processes and business strategies have been documented and drafted.
- A number of BuB proposals have been influenced to contribute to sustainable fisheries management.

4.13. Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs

Enterprise development work is now being implemented in all eight MKBAs. SAF is being used to support enterprise development in seven MKBAs. For Surigao del Norte, the project is working on the establishment of social enterprises, but is not funding a partner NGO for this work. Instead, a community organizer was hired, and private and public partners are being sought out to fund most of the training, skills transfer, and capital outlay. Social preparation has commenced in all sites, and for Negros and VIP, business plans have been completed. Around half of the enterprises are currently undergoing production skills training. EAFM orientation has been provided to all PO beneficiaries except in CIG, workshops for which are scheduled in November 2016. Finally, baseline surveys have been conducted for all enterprise beneficiaries, in line with the requirements of the TOC evaluation questions.

Similar to the Bravo Awards in VIP, MKBA Awards have been set up in CIG (RACE), South Negros (PANGGA), Surigao del Norte (SIGANID), and Danajon Bank (GANDA). SEAT is now being used as part of the criteria, along with MEAT. The awarding of best MPAs will be towards the end of the project. For Lingayen Gulf, San Bernardino Strait, and Sulu Archipelago, recognition and assessment workshops will be conducted in Year 5 given that there are not enough MPAs in the area.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable13.

Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Translate IFRM Plans into business plans				
Conduct business planning workshops to translate IFRM Plans			O	O
Provide inputs for the formulation of IFRM plans for 4 MKBAs	O	O	O	O
Enterprise Development				
Supervise and coordinate with NGOs subcontracted under SAF	O	O	O	O
Link up with public and private sector partners for various stages in enterprise development	O	O	O	O
Continue social preparation work (particularly EAFM orientation) in 8 MKBAs	O	O	O	O
Conduct baseline survey of enterprise beneficiaries			O	O
Provide technical and administrative support in setting up the social enterprises, and tie up enterprise development work with other components of the Project	O	O	O	O
Development of Inter-LGU Trust Funds				
Hold policy discussions with DBM, NAPC, DILG, etc. to develop Trust Fund for fisheries management	O	O	O	O
Capitalization of Coastal Adaptation Funds				

Develop SEAT and pilot test in VIP	C			
Set up awards in 4 MKBAs: South Negros, Surigao del Norte, CIG, Danajon Bank	O	O	O	O
Scope for implementation of SEAT in Lingayen Gulf, San Bernardino Strait, Sulu Archipelago	O	O	O	O
Scope for private sector partners for the sustainability of MKBA awards	O	O	O	O
Establish PES Schemes				
Document the Seasonal Closure in Balayan Bay as a modified PES scheme	C			
Set up Seasonal Closure in San Bernardino Strait as a modified PES scheme	O	O	O	O
Design and establish feasibility of Development Impact Bonds in at least 2 MKBAs	O	O	O	O
Team Lead: Senior Resource Economics Specialist, REECS, and SSG Key Partners: BFAR, LGUs, Private Sector				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 13 during the reporting period include:

- Social preparation is vigorously being pursued in CIG, South Negros, VIP, and Surigao del Norte for the development of social enterprises. Continuous coordination with private and public partners for skills transfer and funding support are likewise being undertaken in these four MKBAs.
- Enterprise development has commenced in Tawi-Tawi, San Bernardino, Lingayen Gulf, and Danajon Reef.
- MKBA Awards have been set up in four MKBAs. SEAT is now being used as part of the criteria along with MEAT.

4.14. Deliverable 14: Advanced Trainings in Specialized Fisheries Management (SFM) Interventions for Inter-LGU Alliance

Midway through Year 4, ECOFISH was granted an increase in Total Estimated Cost (TEC) primarily to fund advanced trainings in specialized fisheries management for inter-LGU alliance. The advanced trainings will be for partner institutions in the eight MKBAs to include provincial and municipal governments, regional offices of the BFAR, the PNP-MG, local government alliances, NGOs, and academic institutions. This new deliverable consists of (1) advanced trainings in fisheries, MPAs, and socioeconomics, (2) national forum on EAFM, MPA or climate change adaptation, (3) advanced trainings on fishery law enforcement, (4) fisheries summits, and (5) five portfolio of communication materials produced and disseminated.

Advanced trainings in fisheries will target local partners in the MKBAs as participants and BFAR partners in the regions as both participants and resource persons. The advanced trainings will focus on fisheries resource assessment, MPA assessment, and socioeconomics. ECOFISH will conduct two national training of trainers on the fish examination. This will consist of a ten-day training to pilot-test the new fish examiners' training module and a seven-day instructors' pool training. The pool of instructors will serve as resource persons for the inter-LGU fish

examiners trainings in each MKBA. ECOFISH intends to communicate its accumulated experiences, best practices, and challenges in working with partners at the national and MKBA level. The project will strive to translate complex fisheries management concepts into simple messages, convey its learnings to a wider audience, and articulate critical messages on marine biodiversity conservation in popular version that can be used as ready reference of future projects and other development agencies.

The ECOFISH team has gone through the process of identifying advanced training needs for partners from the LGU, BFAR, NGOs, and the academe. Likewise, themes and topics for the MKBA summits and forums were consulted with the site teams and thematic leads. The team enhanced its collection of materials for the development of information kits, brochures, infographics, and social media posts.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable13.

Deliverable 14: Advanced Trainings in Specialized Fisheries Management (SFM)				
Interventions for Inter-LGU Alliance				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Advanced trainings in fisheries, MPA assessment and socioeconomics				
Advanced trainings provided to key partners in fisheries related to SFM and intensified interventions			O	O
National forum on EAFM, MPA or Climate Change				
National forum or summit of EAFM, MPA, or climate change adaptation			O	O
Advanced trainings in fishery law enforcement				
Training of trainers (ToT) on fish examination (2 National)			O	O
Fish examiners training in eight (8) MKBA			O	O
Fisheries summits				
Fisheries summit in the eight (8) MKBA			O	O
Portfolio of communication materials produced and disseminated				
Five portfolio of communication materials (EAFM, MPA, CCA, Enforcement, Social Enterprise, and cross-cutting ECOFISH interventions)			O	O
Team Lead: Deputy Chief of Party, Summit/Forum Coordinator, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist, Senior Resource Economics Specialist Key Partners: BFAR, LMP, MKBA LGUs				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 14 during the reporting period include:

- ECOFISH, in partnership with the BFAR- National Stock Assessment Program (NSAP) in Region 7 and the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI), conducted a training on Reproductive Biology of Commercially Important Fish and Invertebrates in Region 7 on August 16-18, 2016. This advanced fisheries training aimed to

train NSAP field enumerators and technical staff of six LGU partners in the Danajon Reef MKBA on effective fisheries data collection and assessment. Specifically, the training gave them operational knowledge and skills in the conduct of reproductive biology studies for commercially important fish and invertebrate fishery species and ensured the compatibility of data from both the LGU and NSAP enumerators through standardized sampling, data collection, and data recording methods.

5. Site-Level Year 3 Accomplishments

As mentioned earlier, the priority among the major thrusts of ECOFISH in Year 4 is putting in place interventions that will serve as building blocks for, as well as directly influence the, achievement of the final outcomes of the Project, namely: an average of 10% increase in fisheries biomass and a 10% increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management.

5.1. Calamianes Island Group MKBA

For Year 4, the Project continued its activities in strengthening existing MPAs and MPA Network through technical coaching, training, meetings, and actual field mentoring. The Project also supported MPAs, fisheries management, and CRM interventions in the MKBA through promotion of incentive program. In addition, Special Activity Funds have been awarded to partners to assist the project in strengthening the Calamianes Group of Islands MPA Network, establishment of additional MPAs, and support the enterprise development programs with gender responsive mechanisms. Three major enterprises, sea cucumber ranching, mud crab fattening culture and ecotourism cultural village, are currently being implemented in the site.

For this reporting period, the project team continued its productive relationships with national and local governments to generate political and financial support through confidence building measures. It also prioritized policy development and work towards refinement and approval of an inter-LGU Marine Spatial Plan to provide mechanisms for rationalizing sea use and access through licenses and permits. Technical advice and trainings were provided to the Tagbanua cultural community and community partners as part of the mentorship for enterprise development.

The table below summarizes the status of (O-ongoing; C-completed) of interventions and activities in the Calamianes Island Group MKBA under the various deliverables.

Calamianes Island Group MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Support the presentation of relevant draft resolutions/ordinances to FARMC and SBs.	O	C		
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Support the identification and writing of at least two (2) case studies demonstrating a best practice, issue or challenge related to EAFM, MPA, climate change.	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs				
Conduct benchmarking exercises with LGUs.	O	O	O	C
Conduct benchmark validation activities.	O	O	O	C

Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Support the conduct of paralegal training.	C			
Support the provision of technical and legal assistance to local law enforcement teams mentoring.	O	O	O	C
Support the conduct of PCRA training involving 10 MPAs through Special Activities Fund.	O	O	C	
Support the conduct of training on information, education communication, social marketing, and media relations.	O	O	C	
Support the conduct of operation planning workshops and follow up meetings	O	O	C	
Support the building capacity of MPA guards through training and coaching activities.	C			
Conduct continuous vetting of prospective trainees from the PNP, PCG and Philippine Navy under the Leahy Vetting.	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Support the conduct of financial management training in Culion, Busuanga, and Coron, including the Tagbanua.	O	C		
Provide technical assistance and advice to POs for them to implement environment-friendly livelihood projects from SLP and BuB.	O	O	C	
Provide technical assistance in mangrove assessment and reforestation in Culion and Coron (TTCIA).	C			
Support the conduct of team building, networking and advocacy training in Culion, Busuanga, and Coron (including Tagbanua).	O	C		
Support the conduct of training on negotiation and conflict management in Culion, Busuanga, and Coron (including Tagbanua)...	O	O	C	
Support the popularization of 700 DALOY and the installation of a public reporting system, including monitoring its progress.	O	O	C	
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Support the conduct of fish catch monitoring in Linapacan.	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Facilitate the revisit and revival of Siganids fisheries management (initiated during FISH project).	O	O	C	
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Assist in providing technical assistance, coaching and mentoring for the administration of MEAT.	O	C		
Organize training on MPA baseline assessment and actual assessment for non-priority MPAs.	O	O	O	C
Provide technical assistance in the reconfiguration and expansion of MPAs in Coron.	C			
Explore that possibility of expanding and establishment of MPAs	O	O	O	C
Build the capacity of the local government to support the information, education and communication needs of the MPAs under their jurisdiction.	O	O	C	
Support the conduct of activities leading to organizational development of MPA management bodies/councils and MPA networks through meetings, workshops and the like.	O	O	C	
Facilitate the refinement of the CMN management plan.	O	O	O	O

Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Support the review and/or amendment of fishery ordinances of 2 municipalities	O	C		
Support activities leading to the review, refinement and approval of the Marine Spatial Plan, incorporating the newly-specified economic criteria (net economic values)	O	O	O	C
Provide support in activities leading to the strengthening of enforcement teams of the focal LGUs through training, meetings and the like	O	O	O	C
Identify a service provider under SAF to provide technical and/or legal support to strengthen the municipal teams and monitor progress of implementation	O	C		
Organize orientation workshop on right-sizing of fishing effort and subsequent consultations	O	O	C	
Organize updating meetings, workshops for key stakeholders and partners such as BFAR, LGUs, PNP and others to ensure continuity of efforts across different political administrations	O	O	O	C
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Facilitate the collection of relevant data relative to BoatR and FishR	O	C		
Support the activities such as meeting and trainings leading to the use of BoatR and FishR in licensing system	O	O	C	
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Coordinate meetings with local officials, POs, local NGOs, and other stakeholders in preparation for the workshop and consultation on revenue generation system	C			
Provide technical and administrative assistance in the development of TTCIA user fee scheme	O	C		
Provide technical and administrative assistance in the development of resort development fees in Busuanga, Culion and Linapacan	O	O	C	
Support the presentation of willingness-to-pay survey to LGUs	C			
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Organize business planning workshop focusing on the translation of Calamianes Inter-LGU Fisheries Management Plan (CIFMP) into business plans	O	O	O	O
Support the conduct of market planning workshop	O	O	O	O
Support the conduct of ecotourism training in Coron-Siete Pecados (tour guiding, food preparation & souvenir making)	O	O	O	O
Develop an incentive program for the MPA network	O	C		
Deliverable 14: Advanced Trainings Advanced Trainings in Specialized Fisheries Management (SFM) Interventions for Inter-LGU Alliance				
Advanced trainings in fisheries, MPA assessment, and socioeconomics				

Advanced trainings provided to key partners in fisheries related to SFM and intensified interventions			O	O
Advanced trainings in fishery law enforcement				
Fish examiners training in the MKBA			O	O
Fisheries summits				
Fisheries summit in the MKBA			O	O

Highlights of Key Site-Level Activities/Accomplishments:

- Organized and facilitated the Documentation of Tagbanua Tribe of Coron Island Association (TTCIA) Financial Management System on October 5-6, 2015. The workshop was part of a previous request by the TTCIA to help them better manage their revenues from entrance fees collected from tourist attractions located within their ancestral domain.
- The activity was followed by a strategic planning workshop conducted on February 17-18, 2016, which intended to provide the participants with a strategic planning strategy to enable them to help their organization. The workshop emphasized the role of financial management and the importance of land-use management, the development of the Cultural Village of Coron Island and other new tourist sites, and the maintenance of existing sites to strategically plan for the future. The Strategic Plan will be used to develop a business plan for the TTCIA. These activities were part of the Mentorship for Enterprise Development program of the project in partnership with the Asian Institute Management (AIM). ECOFISH was working very closely with the AIM student mentors not only to design their terms of reference to be tailored to the social enterprise needs of key ECOFISH sites and partners, but also to provide them with technical and logistical support to complete their deliverables.
- In partnership with AIM students, ECOFISH organized and facilitated the Business Planning workshop for TTCIA on July 6-8, 2016. Tagbanua elders, barangay officials, and TTCIA officials participated in the workshop. It provided them with an overview of the essential elements of business planning.
- ECOFISH Project provided legal assistance to the LGU of Coron in the drafting of municipal fishery ordinance. Several consultations with fishers were conducted to provide relevant inputs to the ordinance, which include a review of the fisheries management of rabbit fish (siganids).
- The site team participated in the training on M&E of Bottom-up Budgeting (BuB) Projects on October 16, 2015. BUB is the national government's participatory budgeting process. After the training, ECOFISH was selected as team leader for the monitoring of BuB projects in Coron and Linapacan on October 21, 2015, and November 3-5, 2015.



Libarra Maglicante, TTCIA Vice Chairman, documenting the financial process being practiced by the organization.

- The site team attended the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) Assembly meetings in Busuanga and Linapacan on October 23, 2015, and November 6, 2015, respectively, ECOFISH was elected as one of the members of the Local Poverty Reduction Action Team (LPRAT), the group responsible for the development and monitoring of Local Poverty Reduction Action Plan.
- Being an elected member of the Local Poverty Reduction Action Team (LPRAT), ECOFISH participated in the LPRAP workshop conducted by the Municipality of Busuanga on January 21, 2016. The workshop was held in preparation for the Bottom-up Budgeting for FY 2017. Members of LPRAT proposed 84 projects but only ten projects were prioritized and included in the P20 million budget cap of the BUB. Of the ten priority projects, three were fishery-related programs, i.e., enhancement and establishment of MPAs, fish port construction, and aquasilviculture.

- Organized the MPA Network facilitation skills training on October 19-20, 2015 where 20 representatives from nine MPAs in the CIG participated. One of the outputs of the training was the development of a communication plan for MPAs. After the training, the CMN council conducted a special meeting and elected a new set of officials.

- Conducted on-site validation of coastal and water uses in two municipalities in CIG in partnership with the PCSDS technical staff and LGUs on October 27-30, 2015, and November 2-5, 2015, in Coron and Busuanga, respectively. The results of the validation activities were presented to stakeholders through consultation meetings during which objectives and allowable activities were reviewed and harmonized with ECAN zoning guidelines. The final draft of the coastal and water use plans



Orientation with Mayor Samuel de Jesus and SB Deraco of Busuanga regarding resource use conflict in Concepcion using the coastal water use map.

plans



(left) Culmination ceremony of the Fish Conservation celebration; (right) Poster Making contest participated by students from Coron School of fisheries.

- (CWUP) will be presented to the SB session for approval.
- ECOFISH co-organized the Fish Conservation Celebration in Coron on October 29, 2015, with more than 300 attendees from the fisherfolk, women, youth, and NGO sector. The project hosted and facilitated the poster making contest and logo making contest for the Calamianes MPA Network (CMN).

- Coron has the most number of declared MPAs among the four municipalities in CIG; there are nine established MPAs and three more are being processed to cover nearly 16,000 hectares. Given this situation, LGU Coron decided to create a small MPA network intended for Coron, but also under the Calamianes MPA Network. ECOFISH provided technical support during the development of the concept, as well as for a series of meetings conducted in November 2015. Highlights of the meeting include the identification of common issues among individual MPAs in Coron, presentation of the concept of MPA network and its importance, approval of the Coron MPA Network organizational structure, defining the roles and responsibilities of the MPA management Council and MPA management Board, and the development of initial action plans.
- Facilitated the community partnership monitoring and evaluation in Culion on November 10-12, 2015. Nine POs were interviewed.
- Assisted the Calamianes MPA Network (CMN) during their quarterly network meeting on November 20, 2015. A draft CMN plan was discussed and the design for the annual network meeting was planned.
- ECOFISH conducted the “EAFM: Selected Applications” forum on December 2, 2015, to achieve the following objectives: (1) present the results of the two major studies conducted by the project- Estimating the Recreational Value of Ecosystems in Coron, Busuanga, and Culion through willingness to pay (WTP) and value chain analysis for sea cucumber in CIG; and (2) introduce an incentive scheme to promote MPAs in CIG. Among the major outputs of the forum were:
 - (1) Linapacan committed to use the WTP study as basis in the creation of a municipal tourism ordinance. The LGU will get the cooperation of the tour operators and the resorts for the users’ fees;
 - (2) Willingness of four LGUs from Linapacan, Busuanga, Culion, and Coron to venture in sea cucumber enterprise; and
 - (3) Secured the commitment of the four municipalities (Coron, Busuanga, Culion, and Linapacan) and their agreement to join the MPA Awards as part of the incentive program for MPA managers
- Banking on the success of the first MPA Guard training conducted last March 2015 in collaboration with PNP Maritime Group, ECOFISH organized the 2nd batch of MPA Guard training and Operation Planning Workshop on December 3-5, 2015. The objectives were to assess the status of the MPAs in terms of promotion compliance and enforcement, to capacitate key MPA leaders on the basic tenets of guarding an MPA, and to support the



Key informant interview with UBCC Fisherman Association President during community partnership M&E in Culion.

development of an MPA enforcement plan. Forty-one MPA guards from nine MPAs attended the training.



PNP Maritime Group together with ECOFISH Personnel assisted the MPA Guards on their navigational chart plotting exercises on December 4, 2015 at Kamalig Training Center, Coron, Palawan (left photo); Bulalacao MPA Guard in red shirt during information gathering simulation exercise on December 5, 2015 at Public Market, Coron, Palawan (right photo).

- Support for the development of social enterprises for fishing communities in CIG through Special Activity Funds (SAF) has been awarded to Partnership of Philippine Support Service agencies (PHILSSA). The project intends to complement current ECOFISH deliverables and activities by enhancing the sustainable financing strategy of the project. It intends to support at least 12 social enterprises. The 12 supported projects shall be distributed to the municipalities, ideally three for each municipality. For Year 4, several social enterprises identified and recommended by partners have been started.
- Site validations of the proposed mud crab production sites in Busuanga, Coron, and Culion were conducted on January 28, February 1, 2, and 4, 2016, to determine its suitability for mud crab fattening in partnership with Samdhana Institute. The community identified mud crab fattening as one of the potential livelihoods primarily due to the high demand for it both in the domestic and foreign markets.
- On February 6-9 and March 8-10, the USAID-ECOFISH-PHILSSA project invited respected artists, sociologists and architects to conduct scoping activities in the proposed cultural village in the two Tagbanua communities: Banuang Daan in Coron Island and Balik Calait Movement in Calait, Busuanga. Both were awarded with Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT) by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP). The proposed cultural village of the Tagbanua is an area set aside to depict the lifestyles, activities, and artifacts of their culture. The Council of Elders, along with the officers of the BCM in Calait and Banuang Daan, gave their approval to the proposed cultural village to be established through the partnership of PHILSSA and ECOFISH.
- One particular project that Calait would like to explore is the publication of a children's book that will feature their traditions and best practices to ensure that these are passed on to the succeeding generations. The idea of highlighting their traditional jewelry as souvenir items was likewise encouraged by the BCM leadership. Also, they would like to incorporate other new projects in the area, such as mud crab fattening and their bio-organic farm as part of the ecotourism project to be established.



(L) Ms Rina Rosales, ECOFISH Resource Economist, introducing the concept of cultural village to the Tagbanua elders in Banuang daan, Coron Palawan on March 8, 2016; (R) Marinel Contretras and Tala Contreras, invited artists, conducting focus group discussion with Tagbanua women in Calauit

- On August 19-23, 2016, the Center for Art, New Ventures & Sustainable Development (CANVAS), a non-profit organization that works with the creative community to promote children's literacy, explore national identity, and broaden public awareness for Philippine art, culture and environment, in partnership with USAID ECOFISH project visited the three tribal villages in Coron located in Barangay Banuang Daan, Cabugao and in Busuanga-Calauit.
- Focus group discussions and key informant interviews were conducted during the visits to gather stories about Tagbanua traditional practices that promote environmental awareness and conservation. The team was composed of a children's book writer, a graphics designer, a photo/video documenter and a children's book illustrator. The book will form part of the program of CANVAS to provide "1 million books for 1 million children." At the same time, the book can help promote the objectives of ECOFISH in CIG, and create a larger constituency for future conservation activities in the area. The completion and launching of the book project is early next year.
- In addition to establishing a cultural village in their community, the Tagbanua community in Banuang Daan, Coron Island would like to include the establishment of a museum featuring their traditional gears and implements that can showcase their traditional practices and way of living. Whatever final design that emerges should include waste management, as there are early signs of environmental degradation and pollution owing to poor waste management practices in the community.
- As a follow up activity to the cultural village being set up by ECOFISH in Banuang Daan and Calauit, ECOFISH also facilitated consultation meetings with Tagbanua leaders and the elders of Balik Calauit Movement, and Tagbanua Tribe of Coron Island-Banuang Daan on May 26-27, 2016. During the consultation, the architectural design of the proposed cultural village and the advocacy t-shirt design were presented by the partner architect and artist for approval of the two tribal councils. The establishment of cultural village aims to create employment for Tagbanua fisherfolk through ecotourism.
- A community-based Arts and Handicrafts Training-workshop for Tagbanua was conducted on May 23-26, 2016, in Coron. Members of the Balik Calauit Movement and officers of Saragpunta, the umbrella organization representing all Tagbanwa tribe in Calamianes Island Group, participated in the training. Mr. Rey Paz Contreras, a Filipino sculptor working with



Outputs of the five-day training on wood sculpting (left photo), Mr. Rey Paz Contretras and participants from Balik Calaut Movement and Saragpunta (upper right photo), and outputs of the five-day training on wood sculpting (lower right photo).

ecological and recycled materials as artistic media, served as resource person along with his team. They trained the Tagbanua on proper techniques in sculpting and combining wood with metal to produce sculptures that would highlight their cultural traditions and feature natural wonders found in their ancestral domain.

- Site assessment on the proposed sea ranching sites in Coron and Busuanga were conducted on February 28 to March 1, 2016, with technical assistance from UP-MSI in partnership with LGUs from the two municipalities. The team used the suitability of habitat/substrate quality and exposure to risk factors and environmental stresses criteria for selecting the sites. Based on the result of the assessment, three sites were recommended for sea cucumber ranching, these are located in Sitio Dahat and Decalve MPA, Barangay Bintuan and Concepcion MPA, and Busuanga. After the assessment, target beneficiaries were invited for a sea cucumber ranching orientation-seminar on March 7, 2016, to discuss the processes involved in ranching and the roles and responsibilities of the beneficiaries. Action plans were formulated at the end of the seminar.



(L) Installation of floating hapa frames at Tantangan Island, Busuanga on March 9, 2016 with assistance from Concepcion Fisherfolks Association and UP MSI; (R) During the release of 6,000 sea cucumber juveniles at Tantangan Island, Busuanga on March 10, 2016.

- Implementation of action plans immediately followed after the seminar-orientation. Construction of hapa frames and deployment of juveniles were employed on March 8-10,

2016. Eighteen thousand sea cucumber juveniles from Palawan Aquaculture Corporation hatchery were released in the hapa frames. They were equally distributed in three sites, and each site was given 6,000 juveniles.

- The first monitoring was conducted on April 2016 to determine the growth and survival of the first-stage juveniles. Results showed that survival rate of sea cucumber juveniles was relatively high in Decalve MPA and Concepcion MPA (31% and 35%, respectively) compared to the survival rate in Sitio Dahat (18%). The mean body weight of the sea cucumber juveniles also varied from 1.2 grams to 14.8 grams. Juveniles who have not reached 3 grams were returned back to hapa while juveniles bigger than 3 grams were transferred to inverted hapa for sand conditioning and to increase the survival of the juveniles from the grow-out phase to marketable size. Based on scientific study, sandfish will attain sexual maturity within a year and the first harvest of animals (320 grams or more) can be made after one year, with a subsequent harvest after six months.
- Two more monitoring activities were deployed in July and September 2016 to check the status of the sea cucumbers. During this time, the sea cucumbers were already transferred to the pens for sand conditioning and to prepare them for grow -out phase.

- In February 2016, CMN, in partnership with ECOFISH, organized the search for outstanding MPA in Calamianes and launched the Recognition Awards for CIG's Enhanced Ecosystems (RACE). The objectives of the process were to generate sustained interest among the MPA managers at the municipal level, resolve differences between LGU and IP interests, provide incentives for good MPA management by giving recognition and awards for best-managed MPAs, and document and replicate best practices. After the launching, a series of meetings with the evaluation team was conducted to finalize the guidelines and criteria for judging.



(Top left photo) Rodolfo Aguilar, elder of Tagbanua Tribe of Coron Island association, orienting the RACE evaluator team on the ancestral domain and waters of Coron Island ; (Top right photo) Focus Group Discussion with MPA management council of Bgy Lajala MPA; (Bottom left photo) Focus Group Discussion with MPA management council of Bgy Marcilla MPA; (Bottom right photo) MPA guardhouse of Bintuan marine park.

- The RACE evaluators are composed of representatives of BFAR, PCSDS, PNP-MG, PHILSSA, Tangay Y ang Laud, Palawan State University, Coron School of Fisheries,

Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary, Malampaya Foundation Inc., Calamianes Association of Tourism Establishment, NCIP, Community Centered Conservation (C3), and ECOFISH.

- ECOFISH project co-organized the Socio-Economic Assessment Tool (SEAT) training for RACE evaluators with Community Conservation Center (C3) on June 8, 2016. The SEAT survey is an expanded survey that aims to serve as tool to assess if an MPA produces more social and economic benefits than costs to the local stakeholders. The tool will be used by the RACE evaluators as one of the criteria for the selection of best-managed MPAs in CIG. After the orientation, ECOFISH commissioned three enumerators from the field to conduct the SEAT household survey
- ECOFISH organized the RACE onsite field validation on June 13-22, 2016, with the Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary (PCGA), National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), Palawan State University (PSU), Partnership for Philippine Support Services Agencies (PHILSSA), Community Conservation Centred (C3), Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff (PCSDS), Malampaya Foundation Inc (MFI), and PNP-MG. Fourteen MPAs from Coron, Busuanga, Culion, and Linapacan were visited and evaluated using MPA Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool (MEAT) and Socio Economic Assessment Tool (SEAT) rating systems. The rating uses three overall key indicators: management effectiveness, biophysical and ecological impacts, and social and economic benefits. The evaluation for the 2016 search for the RACE will run for nine months from February 2016 to October 2016, the Fish Conservation Month.
- ECOFISH provided legal assistance to the Local Government Unit of Linapacan on the review of the Linapacan Municipal Fisheries Code on February 29, 2016. The salient features of the amended Fisheries Code or RA 10654 that are applicable to the municipal fisheries ordinance were discussed, as well as the incorporation of management zones and its uses and updating of registration and licensing section. Threat map was also presented to determine their top priorities on enforcement and decide on the type of commercial fishing vessel that will be allowed and regulated in their municipality. The review and updating of municipal fisheries ordinance is in conformity with the Philippine Fisheries Code (RA 8550, as amended by RA10654), the Local Government Code (RA 7160), the Clean Water Act (RA 9275), the Climate Change Act (RA 9729), SEP Law (RA 7611), and other relevant laws.
- The project, in partnership with Calamianes MPA Network, held the CMN Training workshop with the theme “Expanding the Reach of MPA Network” on February 3-4, 2016. The event was attended by more than 70 participants from four municipalities of Coron, Culion, Busuanga, and Linapacan. The two-day training workshop included discussions



Atty. James Kho during the presentation of salient features of amended Fisheries Code and review of Linapacan Municipal Fisheries Ordinance at Session Hall, Municipal Building on February 29, 2016

about the status of the 22 individual MPA Network members in the CIG MKBA and the direction of the MPA Network. Some of the important milestones of the activity were: (1) declaration of joint statement of LGUs and partners NGOs, NGAs, and private sectors in CIG supporting the strengthening of CMN; (2) launching of CMN logo, which signifies unity in the conservation and protection of marine key biodiversity in the site; (3) launching of RACE, a search for outstanding MPA in the MKBA, to recognize effectively-managed MPAs and reward the top ones that are governed properly; and (4) administration of MEAT to determine the management level of each MPA and identify the management gaps that need to be addressed by the MPA management council and LGUs.

- To ensure compliance on the documentary requirements of ECOFISH standards in conducting activities, the project organized the M&E orientation for Special Activity Fund (SAF) recipients on February 9-10, 2016. It was followed by M&E meetings on July 19 and 22 with SAF contractors.
- Conducted focus group discussions with Bagnet operators on March 4, 2016. Bagnet also known Basnig is a type of commercial fishing fleet that captures *Spratelloides gracilis* (silver-stripe round herring locally called as *dilis bahura*), the top fish species caught in Calamianes based on the fish catch monitoring study of ECOFISH in 2013 and 2015. The residents of Coron claimed that Basnig fishing operation has been part of the Coron fishing industry since time immemorial, the reason why they allowed them to fish inside the municipal waters. Basnig fishing tapered and eventually vanished sometime in the 1990s due



(L) LGU Busuanga headed by Hon. Elizabeth Cervantes, Vice Mayor during assessment of MPA management using MEAT on February 4, 2016 at Coron Village Lodge, Coron; (R) Arnel Alcantara, Municipal Agriculturist of Culion during acceptance of commitment and challenges for CMN on February 4, 2016 at Coron Village Lodge, Coron

to declining catch. It was revived only in 2012. In one of the inter-LGU enforcement operations conducted in Coron on September 23, 2015, the team apprehended one basnig fishing vessel. This incident caused the LGU of Coron to realize that this type of fishing has been operating in the municipality without legal basis. This put pressure on the Sangguniang Bayan to come up with a legal strategy to address both the sentiments of the bagnet operator and the inter-LGU enforcement team. They requested technical assistance from ECOFISH on how to go about it. Regulation on the number of Bagnet fishing vessel to ensure sustainable fishing of *dilis bahura* was proposed during the FGD session with Bagnet operators. The

FGD recommendation will be used as input to the proposed municipal fisheries and coastal resource management ordinance of Coron.

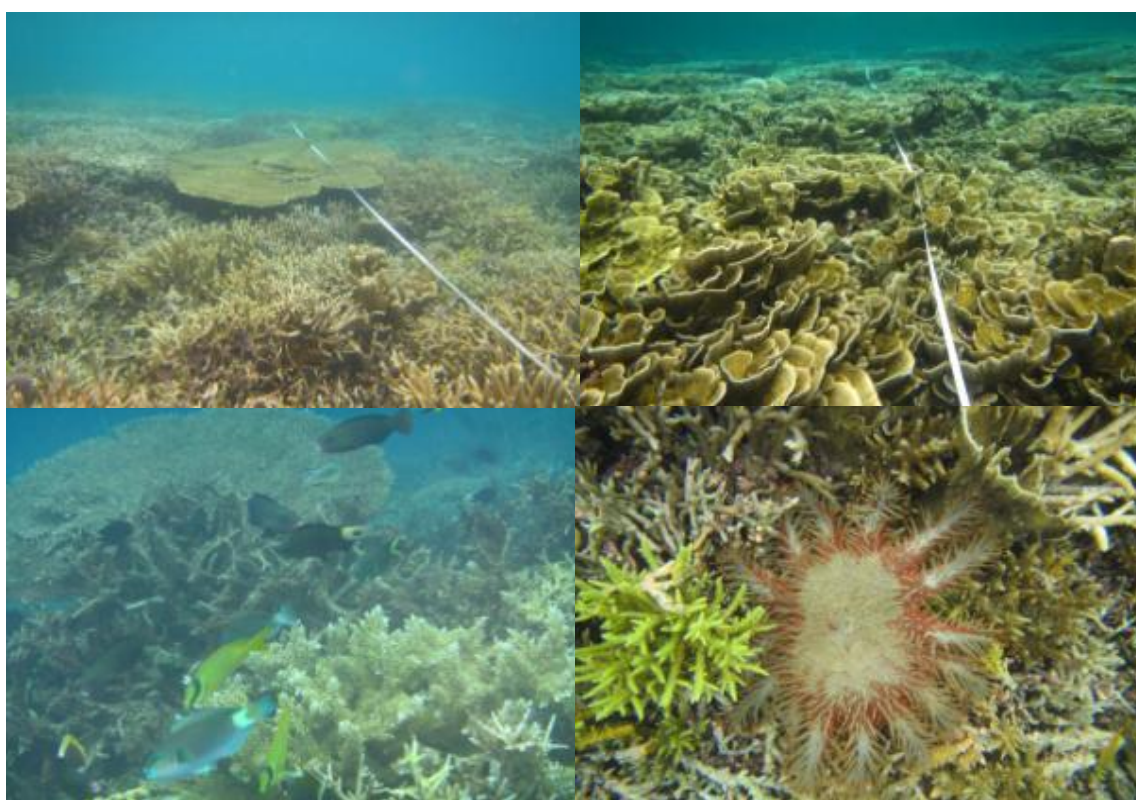
- Organized the Basic Bookkeeping and financial management training, which was divided into two parts. Part 1 was conducted on March 15-16, 2016, and Part 2 on August 18-19, 2016, for selected members of seven Peoples Organizations in Busuanga. The training is one among eight training modules developed by the project and given to community partners as part of social preparation for enterprise development.
- Organized and facilitated the business-planning workshop for two community partners from Culion on March 17-18, 2016. The workshop generated two business plans: the dried fish bisugo business of Cagaet Minorities Fisherfolk Association and seaweed pancit canton of 4Ps Parent Leader Association.
- On February 29 to March 1, 2016, ECOFISH and SEKAYA Foundation facilitated consultation meetings in select barangays in Linapacan. This is part of the Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) application process of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) on gene-banking research, which include identification and sample of prospective natural assets for possible development into natural medicinal products. Introduction and discussions among barangay officials and Tagbanua tribe leaders in Barangays Calibangbangan, Pical, and Barangonan in Linapacan were conducted gearing towards securing acceptance on planned partnership. Planned partnership activities included conduct of scoping activities, interviews, and FGDs to identify natural products with potential medicinal value within selected IP communities, document written and oral traditions around indigenous practices to natural products, acquire sample of selected natural products for laboratory testing for toxicity according to protocols and discuss Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).



USAID Philippines-ECOFISH Project together with SEKAYA Foundation during community consultation meeting on potential medicinal value with Barangay Officials and Tagbanua tribe in Brgy. Barangonan, Linapacan on March 1, 2016.

- After the consultation meetings, ECOFISH was able to get a firm acceptance from the three barangays and their IP communities to move forward with the project, accounting for the enthusiastic discussions with the IP leaders and communities on the wide-use of natural medicinal plants and their uses, preparation, cultural significance, and availability. ECOFISH staff will be collecting the community resolutions for transmittal and validation by NCIP, after which the project will secure the FPIC and allow them to move towards the survey phase.

- ECOFISH facilitated the review of coastal and water use plan of Linapacan on March 1, 2016, attended by the Technical Working Group (TWG) from the Office of the Sangguniang Bayan, Municipal Tourism Office, Municipal Planning & Development Office, and Office of the Municipal Agriculturist. Regulations on the management of water use zones were discussed and decided to incorporate in the proposed amendment of municipal fisheries and coastal resources management ordinance of Linapacan. The following day, March 2, 2016, the team together with the representatives from TWG, conducted site validation activity in select areas in the municipality.
- As a follow up activity towards finalization of Linapacan coastal and marine water use plan, another TWG meeting was conducted on July 18, 2016, to refine the document. On July 25, 2016, the final draft plan was presented to the members of Sangguniang Bayan of Linapacan. After the presentation, the body unanimously approved the adoption of the coastal and marine water use plan of Linapacan.

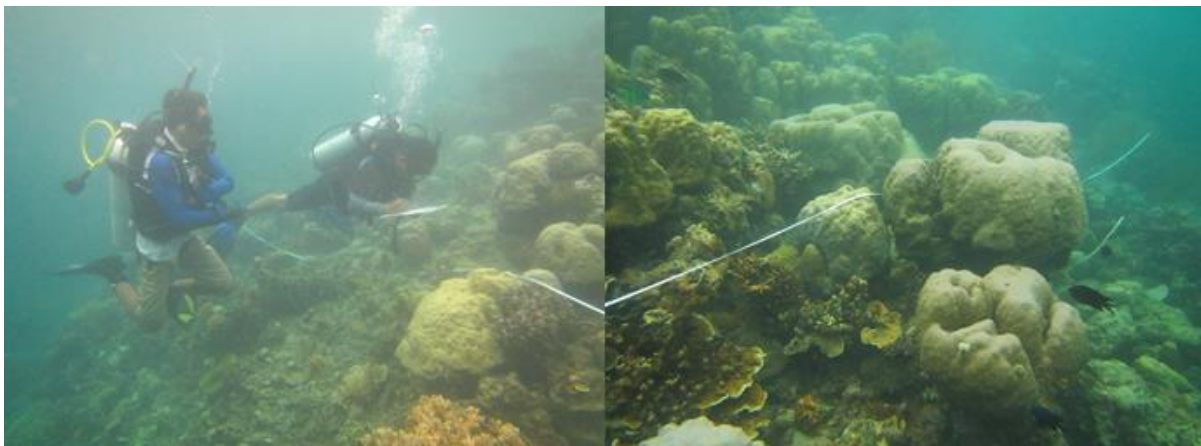


Line intercept transects laid out in two of three stations surveyed for detailed coral cover inside the proposed Calibangbangan MPA on 29 July 2016. The high ration of live coral cover against dead corals and dead corals with algae means that the reef is still in excellent condition. However, it was noted that crown-of-thorns starfish were present in the reefs.

- To support the strengthening of Calamianes Group of Islands MPA Network (CMN) and the establishment of an additional two MPAs in CIG, the Palawan State University Linapacan Campus was contracted in March through the Special Activity Fund (SAF) to provide technical assistance for the establishment of two new MPAs in Linapacan, including capacity building for MPA management bodies, strengthening of MPA enforcement capacity, and integration into the CMN. The establishment and strengthening of the two MPAs will be a

significant addition to the overall project goal of increasing fish stock and improving fisheries livelihoods in the CIG.

- The surveys of primary benthic habitats and resources inside and outside the proposed MPAs in Barangay Maroyogroyog and Calibangbangan were undertaken on July 27-30 2016, by the PSU Linapacan, SAF Contractor of the ECOFISH Project, in order to generate the baseline profile of the proposed MPAs. The assessments focused on characterization of coral reef habitats and its associated demersal fish communities, seagrass resources, mangroves, and the identification of important macro-invertebrate species in a series of survey stations inside the proposed MPAs. The data generated from the assessments will serve to raise community awareness on the importance of MPA establishment and subsequently, enable MPA configuration, size, and location of its core sanctuary. It will also serve as input for MPA management planning and, subsequently, the formulation of an MPA management plan to facilitate enactment of a Barangay Resolution and Municipal Ordinance.
- Results of the surveys reveal that fringing reefs in both the proposed Calibangbangan and Maroyogroyog MPA are exceptionally diverse, with live coral cover in the stations surveyed ranging from good to excellent condition. The proposed MPAs also hosts diverse seagrass meadows and a modest population of macro-invertebrates, majority of which are of commercial significance. Drawing from the diversity and distribution of live hard corals and marine species in the surveyed areas, the assessments conclude that the proposed sites are



Underwater survey with scuba using line intercept method; the line transect is laid out in a reef slope found within proposed the Maroyogroyog Marine Protected Area. In the stations surveyed, the high ratio of live coral to dead coral and algal cover means that the reef is still in good condition.

very suitable sites for MPA establishment.

- ECOFISH, through the Palawan State University, conducted a series of consultation meetings with stakeholders in the Linapacan villages of Maroyogroyog and Calibangbangan from August 29 to September 1, 2016, for the establishment of MPAs. The results of coral reef profiling, fish visual census, seagrass, and mangrove and macro-invertebrate surveys were presented to the Barangay Councils and the communities to enable them to make an informed decision about the establishment of MPAs in the two barangays. Calibangbangan is ecologically linked to fisheries and coastal resources in the municipality of El Nido, a protected seascape under the Philippines' National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS). Maroyogroyog, on the other hand, is strategically located between Sulu Sea and the West Philippine Sea. Both pelagic and demersal species of fish regularly move between the

two seas. Fishers in Maroyogroyog are also known to engage in live fish trade though this has declined significantly due to loss of resources and habitats. The cephalopod fishery in the area, particularly for the “ballpen pusit” is significant and the establishment of MPA in Maroyogroyog will contribute to the conservation of spawning stocks of the squid.

- ECOFISH Project provided five levels of enforcement training courses to BFAR Quick Response team, PNP Maritime Group, select members of PCSDS enforcement team on April



(Top left photo) Participants of Level 1 BFAR QRT training with PSUPT Glen Provide ; (Top right photo) PSUPT Oliver Tanseco demonstrated the gun handling during the Level 2 training; (bottom left photo) Prosecutor Gidor Manero lecturing on rules of environmental court during Level 3 training; (bottom middle photo) participants of the paralegal training with Atty Robert Chan and Prosecutor Gidor Manero; (bottom right photo) Ms. Annabel Lasaten giving lectures on basic mass communication.

5, 20-21, May 17-18, June 22-23, 2016, and September 17-18, 2016. The purpose of the training program was to provide current, relevant and effective training skills for enforcement teams in CIG. The trainings included basic navigation, plotting and GPS use proficiency, training on fishing vessel-visit, boarding, search and seizure, paralegal training, basic mass communications, and strategic communication planning and Maritime Intelligence Management Training.

- ECOFISH provided technical support to the Municipal Agriculturist of Coron during the conduct of fishing gear inspection in the municipality particularly on the use of fine mesh net in bagnet operations.
- Provided technical assistance during the conduct of MPA community consultation on the proposed expansion site of Siete Pecados Marine Park.
- ECOFISH staff shared the experiences of Calamianes Group of Islands MPA Network (CMN) in establishing MPA network to the participants from Southern Palawan of learning exchange visit in CIG MKBA on April 17, 2016. The learning exchange visit was hosted by the Municipality of Coron.
- ECOFISH participated as resource person during the two-day Marine Environmental Education & Biodiversity conservation seminar on April 25-26, 2016, for Club Paradise Resort employees. At least 67 staff attended the activity. Major outputs include conceptualization of environmental initiative project and solicitation of financial support for the RACE awards.

- The Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff requested ECOFISH support for the conduct of Water Use Zone Plan and Environmental Critical Area Network (ECAN) plan harmonization meeting with Technical Working



PCSD Staff facilitating the discussion on the harmonization of water use plan of Coron and ECAN plan on April 29, 2016

Group of Coron held on April 29, 2016. The meeting was conducted to integrate the revised ECAN guidelines to water use plan. Some of the agreements are the identification and delineation of different MPA subzones, designation areas for the collection of crabs and shells and gleaning activities within mangrove areas, delineation of waterways, inclusion in the proposed revised Resolution 05-250 of ECAN guidelines the coral and mangrove rehabilitation as allowable activities for core zone, consolidation of ECAN map and water use plan using on the colors of the ECAN, and identification and incorporation of the DENR greening program (especially those in mangrove areas) in the ECAN map. Water Use Plan will be presented by the TWG to the current ECAN Board and facilitate for its adoption PCSDS to produce the initial ECAN map by next quarter and facilitate the adoption of the PCSD 05-250 as amended.

- Participated in the SaKaragatan festival in Busuanga, which coincides with the celebration of the month of the Ocean on May 18-19, 2016, with the theme “*Lupa’t Karagata’y karugtong ng bawat buhay; kapit kamay natin itong pagyamanin at ingatan*”. The project displayed and distributed information materials to the participants of the event.
- Facilitated the community meeting and site validation of the MPA boundaries in Minugbay-Malbato-Tagpi MPA.
- Assisted the Project Information Kit team during photo documentation and key informant interviews with partners from Coron, Culion, and Busuanga on May 23-26, 2016.
- Participated and attended a meeting with LGU Busuanga and C3 to discuss the water use conflict in the dugong conservation area and on seaweed farming on June 20, 2016. ECOFISH provided the water use map as guide in deciding the next steps to resolve conflict.



Distribution of IEC materials during SaKaragatan festival (left) and participants of the festival line up to visit the USAID ECOFISH booth (right)

- Conducted interviews with PNP and Municipal Agriculturist of Busuanga on Coastal Law Enforcement status of the municipality.
- Courtesy meetings with Local chief executives of Coron, Culion and Linapacan were conducted during the last quarter of Year 4. ECOFISH staffs presented the status of the project and distributed copies of studies conducted in CIG for their reference.
- After several years of providing technical support and mentoring to CIG LGUs on coastal law enforcement, a Coastal Law Enforcement Monitoring workshop was conducted on August 4-5, 2016, in Coron, Palawan together with representatives from the four LGUs in CIG, Coron, Busuanga, Culion, and Linapacan, as well as enforcement agencies and NGO partners. The objective was to assess the status and progress of enforcement teams in addressing the priority fisheries threats and issues in their respective municipalities. In addition, action plans were developed to make the necessary adjustments in order to ensure that it meets the goals of protecting and conserving their fisheries and coastal resources through effective enforcement.
- To assess the overall governance levels of the four LGUs in terms of implementing EAFM in their respective municipalities, benchmarking exercises were conducted on August 5, 2016, in Coron. The purpose of regularly evaluating the benchmarks is to provide a framework to guide priority geography implementers, particularly the fisheries managers, in effectively implementing EAFM programs primarily by providing guideposts for the various stages of their implementation.
- The USAID ECOFISH Project presented the draft coastal and marine water use plan of Culion municipality to the newly elected local chief executive and support staff of Culion last September 12, 2016. The chief executive of Culion expressed her commitment to pursue the development and implementation of a coastal and marine water use plan, which she said would serve as basis for the renewal of the license of the pearl farm operating in the municipality. It was agreed that a technical working group would be formed to pursue the development of the plan.
- Right-Sizing of Fishing Effort Orientation and Training to Local Partners was conducted on July 5-7, 2016. In addition, the first round of negotiations for fishing effort re-allocation among different fishing gear types and operations was initiated.



(left Photo) During the Food web game. The web formed suggests that the organisms, gears, and other things involved in the activity are interrelated; (right photo) Fishing game set-up, Fishing game was conducted to realize the importance of 'right-sizing' in fisheries management

- On September 14, 2016, ECOFISH provided technical assistance to the municipality of Coron to finalize its coastal and marine water use plan. Coastal and marine water use plans

serve as long-term guides to resolve and reduce conflicts because of multiple uses and activities in municipal coastal areas and marine waters.

- ECOFISH facilitated the MFARMC orientation in Coron and the formation of new officers on September 13, 2016.
- Commencement of Socio Economic Baseline assessment survey for beneficiaries of ECOFISH social enterprise was conducted on September 15-16, 2016. Nine enumerators were trained and deployed in the sites.
- ECOFISH renewed its accreditation in the four⁴ municipalities in CIG as one of the members of Civil Society Association.

Unplanned Activities:

- ECOFISH provided inputs on the Biodiversity and Fisheries Impacts of the Calamianes MPA Network during the two-day Palawan Marine Protected Area summit last December 9-10, 2015, which was organized by the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI) in cooperation with the Provincial Government through the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist. More than 100 officials from municipalities and barangays south of the province of Palawan, law-enforcement agencies, non-government organizations, and other sectors joined the summit.
- A Vietnamese delegation, composed of an official of the Binh Dinh Province and representatives of the Vietnamese NGO Centre for Marine Life Conservation and Community Development, visited the municipalities of Coron and Busuanga in Palawan last September 19-20. ECOFISH promoted its work on the establishment of network of fisheries management based on EAFM for small-scale fisheries, as well as its work on the management of MPAs.
- ECOFISH participated in the Action Planning for Calamianes Tourism Circuit Development on November 9, 2015, which aimed to reach a consensus on the next steps for implementing the immediate product development and destination branding/marketing activities for the Calamianes Tourism Circuit; identify the priority tourism sites in the Busuanga-Coron Island tourism circuits that will be the initial focus of convergence efforts for product development (including skills training for both livelihood and employment); plan the launching of the Calamianes destination brand; and form working groups from the LGU, private sector, and development partners to plan and implement the agreed next steps.
- ECOFISH project provided information dissemination support to the PCSDS for the forthcoming implementation of the close season provision of the revised PCSD Administrative Order No 5, series of 2014 or the Guidelines for the Regulation and Monitoring of catching, culture, trade, transport, and export of Reef-fish-for-Food in Palawan. The implementation of the policy, which set the minimum and maximum size restrictions in the catch, hopes to give the red coral trout the opportunity to have a breather from overfishing and ensure that the fishery for red coral trout in Palawan will remain sustainable. When imposed, close season will be from June 16 to August 31 and October 16 to December 15.
- Facilitated the visit of Jeremy Gustafson of USAID in Coron Island and Siete Pecados Marine Park on February 10, 2016. Siete Pecados Marine Park manager provided a briefing on how Siete Pecados MPA is being operated and maintained as a prime tourist destination.

Likewise, the top tourist spots in Coron Island were visited. A historical overview of the CADT and traditional uses of these tourist spots were provided by former TTCIA Chairperson Rodolfo Aguilar. Management practices were observed while in the area.

- ECOFISH staff attended the FGD on March 3, 2016 regarding the drafting of National Tourism Development Plan, which aimed to solicit information as input to the National Tourism Development Plan.



Various activities during the visit of the Binh Dinh Province officials and representatives of the Vietnamese NGO Center for Marine Life Conservation: (Top left) Municipal Mayor of Coron, Mayor Ajeric Barracoso, briefing the visitors about the coastal resources management program which include ecotourism and MPA management; (Top right) Ms. Than Thi Hien, Vice Director of MCD, Vietnam, expressing her gratitude to Mayor Elizabeth Cervantes of Busuanga, for the warm welcome and for sharing their experiences in fisheries management in the Municipality; (Bottom left) Briefing by the ECOFISH site team; (Bottom right) Mr. Jose Mazo, Siete Pecados Marine Park Manager, Coron, detailing the system use in collecting user fees in the MPA.

- Facilitated the visit of Ester Pura, Acquisition Specialist, and Rebecca Guieb, Coastal Marine Management Specialist, OEECC of USAID Philippines on July 4-6, 2016. During their visit, they were able to observe the fish catch monitoring being conducted by the project and the sea cucumber ranching initiated in Barangay Bintuan, Coron. Likewise, they visited Siete Pecados Marine Park and met the manager to provide briefing on the management strategy of the park and how it was sustained.

Activities not accomplished and why:

- The conduct of fish catch monitoring in Linapacan has been moved to the second quarter of Year 5 to coincide with the regular schedule of fish catch monitoring.
- The refinement of CMN management plan activities has been rescheduled to 1st quarter of Year 5 to ensure that many of the members of CMN will participate in the activity. The task is being handled by Palawan State University, a SAF contractor.
- The conduct of Calamianes Inter-LGU Fisheries Management Plan (CIFMP) business planning workshop and market planning workshop were postponed and moved to Year 5 to provide more time for the site to complete the Marine Spatial Plan matrices, EAFM orientation workshops, and the translation of revenue generating schemes into ordinances that will serve as inputs to their business plan.
- Conduct of ecotourism training in Coron-Siete Pecados (tour guiding, food preparation and souvenir making) has been rescheduled due to the delayed submission of business plan to be delivered by PHILSSA, a SAF contractor.

Issues and concerns:

- Before social enterprises such as mud crab fattening and sea cucumber ranching was initiated in CIG, there was already a prediction that the impact of El Nino will be likely experienced in the Philippines. This includes increased rainfall, landslide, and mudslide. This is already happening in CIG as the majority of crabs placed in the cage that was supposedly for harvest were washed out during the heavy rains. The community partners also observed limited supply of crab lets in the area where crablets were once abundant. Heavy rains caused landslides in Barangay Concepcion, Busuanga, a sea cucumber ranching site, causing sea cucumber loss. Based on scientific study, low salinity can cause large-scale mortality of sea cucumber juveniles, which may be partly due to the rapid decrease of osmotic pressure in the coelomic fluid during hypo-osmotic stress.

Recommended courses of action:

- Sustainable marine-based type of enterprises like mud crab fattening and sea cucumber ranching proved to be feasible in CIG in terms of providing economic incentives to fishers but timing is important in setting up both mud crab fattening and sea cucumber ranching. For these activities, seeding should be conducted before or after the rainy season to avoid low salinity of water.

5.2. Danajon Reef MKBA

In year 4, ECOFISH continued its support to activities of existing inter-LGU and inter-agency bodies, such as the Coastal Law Enforcement Council, Danajon Bank Double Barrier Reef Council, Regional Development Council, and Coastal Law Enforcement Alliance in Region 7. They served as platforms to deliver the key results. Likewise, mandated organizations with enterprise development programs and mandates were tapped to pursue project goals of improving employment resulting from sustainable fishing practices. Issues on delineation of municipal waters were tackled during marine spatial planning sessions.

The table below summarizes the status of (O-ongoing; C-completed) of interventions and activities in the Danajon Reef MKBA under the various deliverables.

Danajon Reef MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Provide support in the conduct of RTDs, conference, meetings and consultation on issues with regional and national policy implications	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Support in the identification of probable case studies demonstrating success stories or challenges encountered through direct project intervention	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs				
Coordinate and assist in the collection of existing data in the area on fisheries resources management for the national data base on EAFM (Leyte and Bohol)	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Support the conduct of assessment and monitoring of coastal law enforcement baselines	O	O	O	O
Support the conduct of a series of training for the Regional BFAR Quick Response Team of Regions 8 and 7	O	O	O	O
Support BFAR in the conduct of MFARMC strengthening (Bohol and Leyte)	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Link up with DSWD-SLP for community partnership (Bohol and Leyte)	O	O	O	O
Support activities related to the implementation of Phase 2 of Blue Crab Partnership focusing on gear swap	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Conduct monitoring and assessment of enforcement (Bohol and Leyte)	O	O	O	O
Conduct governance benchmarking (Bohol and Leyte)	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Support activities leading to the determination of trophic interaction and appropriate fishing effort configuration (Bohol)	O	O	O	O
Support activities related to Phase 2 of blue swimming crabs fisheries monitoring and assessment to evaluate impacts of management	O	O	O	O
Provide support in the assessment and evaluation of viability of mariculture species (Bohol)	O	O	O	O
Support activities related to the conduct of mitigation measures for mariculture activities (Bohol)	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Coordinate with SAF provider in the conduct of orientation/consultation on the establishment of MPAs for areas without MPAs or those needing strengthening of existing MPAs (Leyte)	O	O	O	O

Coordinate the conduct of consultation meetings with the stakeholders on the selection of the MPA sites (Leyte)	O	O	O	O
Facilitate the review of existing MPA management plans for areas with existing MPAs (Leyte and Bohol)	O	O	O	O
Provide technical assistance to focal LGUs for the formulation of MPA management plans (Bohol and Leyte)	O	O	O	O
Facilitate strengthening of MPA management committees (Bohol and Leyte)	O	O	O	O
Orientation on Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool (MEAT)-for areas with existing MPAs or network of MPAs (Leyte)	O	O	O	O
Provide technical assistance, coaching and mentoring for the administration of MEAT (Leyte and Bohol)	O	O	O	O
Support the LGUs in strengthening POs to manage the MPAs/Fish Sanctuaries and in the implementation of their MPA management plans. (Bohol and Leyte)	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Provide support to activities that will lead to the strengthening of the reconstituted CLEC of Bohol and the Danajon Double Barrier Reef Management Council	O	O	O	O
Support activities of the BFAR, LGUs and PNP leading to compliance and enforcement of fishery laws in Danajon Bank	O	O	O	O
Support the Provincial Government of Bohol in the conduct of trainings for capability-building/strengthening of the municipal coastal law enforcement teams	C			
Provide support in the conduct of meetings, trainings and workshops involving municipal coastal law enforcers related to popularization of the amended fisheries laws	C			
Support the conduct of meetings, trainings and workshops that will increase the rate of prosecution using criminal procedures, national administrative adjudication and local summary proceedings.	O	O	O	O
Support the conduct of the trainings of municipal coastal law enforcement teams on information, education and communication.	O	O	O	O
Facilitate in the finalization, adoption, packaging and reproduction of the CFRM Plans (Leyte, Southern Leyte LGUs)	O	O	O	O
Facilitate site validation, drafting, finalization and adoption of the Marine Spatial Plan (Bohol LGUs) incorporating newly specified economic criteria	O	O	O	O
Facilitate site validation, drafting, refinement, finalization and adoption of the Marine Spatial Plan (Leyte and South Leyte LGUs) incorporating newly specified economic criteria	O	O	O	O
Organize orientation workshop on right-sizing of fishing effort and subsequent consultations (Bohol LGUs)	O	O	O	O
Identify service provider under SAF to provide Technical and Legal support to strengthen coastal/fishery law enforcement team. (Danajon wide)	O	O	O	O
Support special events such as Month of the Ocean, Environment Week, Sandugo and other local events to promote EAFM and enforcement of laws	O	O	O	O

Provide support in identifying and implementing SAF to complement enforcement-related deliverables in the focal areas	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Coordinate in the conduct of review of municipal fishery ordinance, executive orders municipal fishing vessel and gear registration, permitting and licensing system (Bohol and Leyte)	O	O	O	O
Support the BFAR and the LGUs in implementing FishR and BoatR and in using them for licensing and other management purposes (Bohol/Leyte)	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Provide support in the conduct of meetings, RTD, consultations in identifying revenue generation opportunities for the MKBA	O	O	O	C
Facilitate the collection of relevant data related to revenue generation system, resource use fees, expenditures and other market-based instruments of LGUs.	O	O	O	C
Support activities that will implement identified revenue generating program of the LGUs	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Provide support in efforts to collaborate with the RDC and its appropriate committees, the BFAR, NEDA, Chambers of Commerce, Provincial Government, and the like in exploring feasible partnerships for enterprise development initiatives in the MKBA	O	O	O	O
Provide support in implementing sustainable financing programs that may emerge from strategic partnerships with key stakeholders	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 14: Advanced Trainings Advanced Trainings in Specialized Fisheries Management (SFM) Interventions for Inter-LGU Alliance				
Advanced trainings in fisheries, MPA assessment and socioeconomics				
Advanced trainings provided to key partners in fisheries related to SFM and intensified interventions			O	C
Advanced trainings in fishery law enforcement				
Fish examiners training in the MKBA			O	O
Fisheries summits				
Fisheries summit in the MKBA			O	O

Highlights of Key Site-Level Activities/Accomplishments:

- ECOFISH staff assisted BFAR in the conduct of several activities during the celebration of Fish Conservation Week. Major topics delivered during the celebration were the amendment of RA 8550, the changes brought about by RA 10654, and the Joint DA-DILG Administrative Order No. 1 series of 2014 entitled: Regulation for the conservation of Blue swimming Crab. ECOFISH presented the result of one-year study on the use of Spawning Potential Ratio for the management of blue swimming crab in Danajon Reef.

- On October 27, 2015, ECOFISH participated in the joint planning session initiated by the Economic Development Committee (EDC) of NEDA together with BFAR Region 7 and 8 and the newly created Technical Working Group.
- The Regional Director of BFAR and Provincial Governor of Bohol initiated the launching of crab pot as Gear Swap program on November 03, 2015.



Ceremony for the turn over of holding cages for berried blue crab to stakeholders and field demonstration on the setting up and maintenance of holding cages in the focal area of the Danajon Reef MKBA in February 2016.

- Holding cages for berried blue swimming crabs were turned over to community in February 22, 2016 that also included actual demonstration on proper placement of holding cages in the suitable sites. As part of the sustainability mechanism for the management of blue swimming crab, results of the value chain analysis study was also presented.
- Facilitated funding for livelihood project for Tubigon with the Executive Director of Social Action Center.
- Provided venue and facilitated the clarification of issues about red tide by BFAR staff in to concerned communities on October 17, 2015.
- On October 16, 2015, the Site Coordinator provided inputs and shared training modules to the members of CLE and MPA Provincial TWG for their proposed training programs. This included ECOFISH project activities and experiences that contribute to the strengthening of the Coastal Law Enforcement and MPA management.
- Conducted follow-up orientation on Danajon Double Barrier Reef and the fisheries management framework employed ECOFISH to PNP MG and PCG on December 07, 2015.

- IEC materials about the biology of blue swimming crabs were distributed to the fishers and LGU partners.
- The site team responded to the request from the Philippine Information Agency (PIA), by serving as guest during the radio program entitled “Kapihan sa PIA” and shared inputs on the progress of ECOFISH project.
- In collaboration with the Bohol Environment Management Office and Environmental Legal Assistance Center (ELAC), the site team facilitated the conduct of a two-day refresher course and paralegal training to 93 participants, including the new members of the Provincial CLE Team and Municipal CLE Team on December 1-2, 2015.
- Provided inputs in the preparation of training design and served as Resource Speaker during the conduct of joint action planning workshop of the MFARMCs and MCLETs of LGU Tubigon on February 26, 2016.
- Provided data on the status of issues and problems related to fishery law enforcement in Danajon Reef during the CLEAR 7 strategic planning workshop on January 08, 2016 held in Cebu City. The workshop outputs were incorporated in the formulation of CLEAR 7 Strategic action plan.
- Provided technical support to BFAR Region 8 in the preparation of event design for and the conduct of the harmonization of municipal fishery ordinances on November 19-20, 2015.



Activities of participants during the Refresher Training Course on Coastal Law Enforcement conducted by ECOFISH in coordination with the BEMO and ELAC in December 20165

- Coordinated with the Provincial Government of Bohol and Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources during the celebration of World Food Day.
- Conducted survey and data collection of gate price of fish from the fishers per size of the representative species within the landing site of the focal areas. The data was used as input in the Danajon Ecopath model for profit comparison of the different fishing gears.
- Collaborated with the Province of Bohol and BEMO in the conduct of Provincial Marine Protected Area Summit on December 8-9, 2015 attended by 117 participants. The major output of the summit was the strategic MPA management plan that would serve as basis for the budget for 2016 from the provincial and municipal government units.
- The University of the Philippines Visayas Foundation Incorporated (UPVFI) and the Visayas State University started the process of strengthening MPAs and network of MPAs under Special Activity Fund in the Bohol and Leyte side of the Danajon Reef, respectively.
- On February 1-5, 2016, the site team assisted in the conduct of interview and collection of data on resource valuation for use in Marine Spatial Plan. The target participants (MAO, FT, Treasurer, Budget Officer, Tourism Officer, Municipal Accountant, Coastguard and PPA) were present during the focus group discussions.



Activities during the two-day Provincial MPA Summit in Tagbilaran City in December 2015, participated in by all MPA Councils in the the Province of Bohol, academe, NGOs, and POs.

- Assisted and facilitated the assessment of the business plans and project proposals. On October 26-27, 2015, the site team met with the Municipal Agriculturist and Fishery Technician of Clarin, Getafe, and Tourism Officer of Buenavista to discuss changes in the BuB guidelines and revised project proposals to conform to the new guidelines. In the municipality of Getafe, the project proposal was revised into a community college as an

alternate of mangrove management and coastal tourism development. In Clarin, the marinated bangus project was awarded to selected qualified family instead of a PO.

- The ECOFISH team conducted an MPA network design workshop on March 30-31, 2016. Danajon Reef was chosen as case study for the MPA network designing training that will ultimately be replicated in other project sites. Fifty-three key partners from MPA councils, municipal officials, provincial officials, FARMCs, and line agencies participated in the workshop. The participants realized the necessity of taking into consideration the required size, social, and ecological criteria in designing MPAs and network of MPAs. The training workshop ended with action planning and next step activities.
- Coordinated the conduct of the MPA management-planning workshop with the University of the Philippines Visayas (UPV) and Bohol Island State University (BISU) on May 19, 2016. The workshop covered the island barangays of Hambongan and Cuaming in Inabanga. This was followed by feedbacking and validation of the individual MPA Management Plans and integrate into the municipal MPA network action planning together with the officers of the People's Organizations of Barangay Asinan and Cabul-an East of Buenavista and Barangay



Nasingin, Pandanon, Handumon, Mahanay, and Jandayan Sur of Getafe last June 17, 2016.

- On June 20, 2016, another feedbacking on marine protected area management plans and validation, of the municipal MPA network action planning together with the PO of Majigpit island in Clarin, POs of Hambongan and Cuaming islands of Inabanga.

- Aside from providing technical assistance in the biophysical selection of new MPAs, the UPVFI and BISU also provided capacity-building activities to respective LGU staff and community members who were form part of the MPA management councils. PCRA training was conducted by the team on September 19-21, 2016, to develop the proper management for the newly established MPAs, as well as their eventual convergence into a network for northwest cluster of MPA's in Danajon. The results of the MPA survey were presented to the barangays involved for more appreciation of the PO's and the other stakeholders in the community.
- Re-organization and reactivation of the MPA management councils were undertaken, as well as oath taking of the newly elected officers were conducted in the focal sites.
- The ECOFISH team, in partnership with the UPVFI and BIS, coordinated the signing of MOU with the Mayors, Municipal Agriculturist, and MPA Network Officers within the focal sites on September 19. The signing of MOU was one of the strategies in binding the obligations and mandates of LGUs as basic service to the POs managing MPAs. In addition, the MOU fostered solidarity among MPA network members in Danajon area.
- ECOFISH project shared its progress report regarding MPA and law enforcement strategies to the two separate groups of provincial partners, which are the MPA Provincial Technical Working Group and the Provincial Coastal Law Enforcement Task Force. Also, UPV scientist Dr. W. Campus presented the result of the underwater baseline assessment of MPAs being monitored by ECOFISH through UPV. Other provincial partners also presented their corresponding progress report in relation to their coastal and fishery resource management program last May 17, 2016.



Various activities of the participants during the MPA management plan feedbacking session and MPA network action planning conducted by UPV and BISU for the municipalities of Buenavista and Getafe.

- Facilitated two-day level 1 training about compliance and enforcement on June 9-10, 2016, held in Cebu City. There were 28 participants coming from the different enforcement agencies: nine from the Quick Response Team of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, 5 from the Local Government Unit of Bohol, 4 from the local government unit of

Cebu, 2 from Philippine Coastguard Auxilliary, 3 from PNP Maritime Group, and 4 representatives from the Philippine Navy.

- Another two-day training for level 2 of the law enforcers training on navigation, seamanship, use of GPS, chart reading, and plotting, was facilitated by ECOFISH staff on June 28-30, 2016. Thirty two participants from Bohol, Cebu, Leyte, Southern Leyte, and BFAR QRT and various LGUs...
- Roundtable discussion was facilitated on June 02-03, 2016, in Tubigon and Clarin, respectively to orient the Mayor, MAO, MPDC and other CRM staff regarding the Adopt a Marine Protected Area (AMPA) concept through the support of the PNP Maritime Group. The discussion resulted in the identification of possible outpost in Tubigon and the adoption of MPAs by the PNP -MG.
- On May 12, 2016, the Site Coordinator of ECOFISH was invited as Guest Speaker during the radio program on “KAPIHAN SA PIA” highlighting initiative of the project applying the concept of the EAFM framework.
- Participated during the grand opening program, parade in celebration of the Month of the Ocean 2016 with the theme “Biodiversity for Food Security.” Installed standees on coastal law enforcement, put up backdrop, distributed reading materials and T-shirts during the event.



Consultation with LGU officials of Tubigon and Clarin regarding the Adopt a Marine Protected Area program of the Philippine National Police Maritime Group.

- The ECOFISH project staff participated during a meeting with the technical working group of the Integrated Municipal Fishery and Aquatic Resource Management Council (MFARMC) of the 5th district of Leyte last May 20, 2016 in Baybay City. The meeting resulted in an agreement to request the Congressman of the 5th district to support livelihood projects for fishers organizations and assist in convening the local chief executives to hold a consultation meeting pertaining to municipal water delineation.
- In coordination with the DENR, BFAR, PNP, and other partners the Community Relation Specialist of ECOFISH participated in celebrating Month of the Ocean by joining a mangrove monitoring and replanting activity in Barangay Punong, Matalom, Leyte on May 28, 2016, and Danajon Island on May 31, 2016, respectively.
- Assisted during the first training on Right-Sizing of Fishing Effort held in CIG on July 04-07, 2016. The prime objective of attending such training was for exposure and enhanced the capability of the Site Coordinator in replicating the training in Danajon, Bohol.

- In partnership with DEVMAX under Special Activity Fund, ECOFISH started implementing the different stages of social preparation activities. Facilitated and mobilized the team leader and community facilitators in conducting courtesy calls focus group discussion, profiling of POs, scoping on probable livelihood enterprise suitable for the POs, and organizational diagnostic workshop in the municipalities, including non-focal sites.
- Facilitated series of round table discussion with the Municipal Agriculturist and Fishery Technician of Macrohon, Maasin City, Hilongos, Inopacan, and Baybay City to assist and follow up the operation of ECOFISH project activities on July 26-27, 2016.
- Part of the commitment from BFAR were the distribution of additional 1,500 pieces of crab pots delivered to the crab fishers of Talibon on July 05, 2016, and 1,000 pieces delivered to the municipality of Inabanga on July 8, 2016.
- On July 19-21, 2016, the team of ECOFISH conducted a training on Right-Sizing of Fishing Effort in Danajon. It served as an essential input for right-sizing of fishing effort and its consequence.
- The LGU partners were able to comprehend what policy and strategy to implement to balance the ecology without jeopardizing the income of the fishers/stakeholders.
- The round 2 workshop on right-sizing was conducted last September 08-09, 2016, to re-convene technical partners from the LGUs and other agencies and review the Danajon trophic systems model outputs. The workshop directed the participants in exploring various fishing effort scenario options using model simulations and agreed on the appropriate and applicable fishing effort configuration for Danajon Reef MKBA. The Local chief executives local chief executives were also updated on the information about the key results of the



Workshop with partners in Danajon Reef MKBA to allocate appropriate number of fishing gears for the right-sizing of fishing effort.

fishing effort scenario simulations and reallocation for the Danajon Reef.

- The mayors in the focal sites were convinced and they appreciated the model. However, they emphasized that they need enough time to educate and do information dissemination campaign prior to the full implementation of the right-sizing strategy. The participants of the local government unit are looking forward to a positive impact on the negotiation on what gears to reduce and take out in the area.
- Conducted courtesy call with the newly elected Mayor of CPG and Ubay on August 04-05, 2016. ECOFISH staff presented the activities done and the work plan for year 2016-2017. The two local chief executive has shown interest in continuing to support the fishery resource management program.
- The Site Coordinator and the Community Relation Specialist conducted an orientation on the formulation of MPA management plan for the staff of Visayas State University (VSU) on

August 25, 2016. They presented the outline and template of the framework of MPA management plan. The purpose of the activity was to guide the VSU in developing the marine protected area management plan of the local partners as requirement for MPA network.

- Facilitated two day focus group discussion on incentive schemes for MPA management and launching of recognition awards of best MPA in Danajon reef MKBA last August 9-10, 2016. The FGD was a great opportunity to all participants from Leyte, Southern Leyte and Bohol for they were able to share their experiences and learning on how the users fees and



Focus group discussion to conduct inventory and share best practices on incentive schemes on to support management of the fisheries.

auxiliary invoice is being collected and account as source of revenue generation to the local government unit.

- In order to strengthen constituency building, ECOFISH staff supported and mentored Municipal and City Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and Management Councils (FARMCs) in Leyte and Southern Leyte during their meeting on September 11, 2016.
- In coordination with ECOFISH and Visayas State University staff, IEC seminar on MPA strengthening and network were facilitated in Barangay Maslog, Baybay City on September 26, Barangay Conalum, Inopacan on September 28, 2016, and barangay Bontoc, Hindang on September 30, 2016.
- ECOFISH, in partnership with BFAR - NSAP in Region 7 and NFRDI conducted the Training on the Reproductive Biology of Commercially Important Fish and Invertebrates in Region 7 last August 16-18, 2016. This advanced fisheries training aimed to strengthen the capability of the NSAP field enumerators and technical staff from six LGU partners in the Danajon Reef MKBA in fisheries data collection and assessment, specifically, by gaining operational knowledge and skills in the conduct of reproductive biology studies for commercially important fish and invertebrate fishery species in Region 7.

Unplanned activities:

- The site team assisted the case study writer from PRIMEX/USAID project in the conduct of interviews and focus group discussion regarding the success story of USAID funded project in Bohol. This is to document the Legacy of USAID project in the Philippines particularly coastal/fisheries management related projects in Danajon area held last April 5-6, 2016.
- Provided administrative support during the exchange of learnings between the US General Counsel and provincial key partners on the compliance and enforcement of fishery laws in Danajon Reef.
- Coordinated Atty. Estrella Menchavez of Green Travelers in exploring potential sites for ecotourism in Danajon Reef. Distributed 40 pairs of slippers in each school particularly in East Central Elementary School of Maca-as Tubigon, Barangay Bato, Buenavista, and Poblacion Elementary school in Talibon.
- Participated in value chain workshop of USAID's Strengthening Urban Resilience for Growth with Equity (SURGE) Project in Tagbilaran City in June 15, 2016.
- Regular updating about the progress report of ECOFISH project was presented to the Management Committee Meeting of BFAR in Tacloban City Region 8 on August 23, 2016. Report for Region 7, the progress was reported on September 07, 2016. After sharing the accomplishment report to both of the Regional Director of BFAR, we were able to secure additional commitment in assisting livelihood projects for fisherfolk.
- Assisted the team of writer and photographer on June 6-10, 2016, for the development of Project Information Kit about the accomplishment of the MKBA site...

Activities not accomplished

- Orientation on adjudication process and creation of Adjudication Board was not conducted due to delayed approval of the new implementing rules and regulation of RA 10654 on adjudication process.

5.3. Lingayen Gulf MKBA

The previous year focused on alliance-building among partner LGUs, government agencies, private organizations, and NGOs. This resulted in the reorganization of the La Union Baywatch Network for Sustainable Fisheries (LUBNSF), a province-wide network. The first half of Year 4 focused on municipal-level initiatives, primarily in support of marine protected areas (MPAs) in both the provinces of La Union and Pangasinan. While the goal is to establish an MPA network, it was necessary to establish new ones that have been identified as spawning and/or feeding areas. Marine spatial planning was also initiated in focal areas of La Union, and the Province has picked this up for expansion to all remaining coastal LGUs of La Union.

Considering the clamor to strengthen coastal law enforcement in La Union, a basic coastal law enforcement training was conducted. At the same time, the LUBNSF agreed on its organizational structure, conducted its action planning for which the province provided a budget of Php2.5 million. This provided a big push to activate the LUBNSF coastal law enforcement Action Group. All the fisheries management activities and CLE activities fall under the umbrella of the

network.

The fourth year of the Lingayen Gulf MKBA saw progress in capacity-building activities in coastal law enforcement. A series of CLE trainings were completed from February to September. The CLE trainings are relevant to the protection of municipal waters from illegal fishing activities, dynamite fishing in particular. It also relates to the protection of MPAs being established in the focal areas, mainly mangrove and artificial reef areas. Lingayen Gulf does not have an abundance of natural coral reef habitats, but it has its share of mangrove forests. Thus, the project supported knowledge sharing and capacity building in mangrove and beach forest rehabilitation and conservation in its focal areas of Pangasinan and La Union provinces, which led to further interests by trainees to do mangrove identification and to come up with ordinances on mangrove protection. With the reality of conflicts involving marine resources, the project also conducted marine spatial planning, validation, writeshop, and further consultation to come up with each municipality's Marine Spatial Plan.

The table below summarizes the status of (O-ongoing; C-completed) of interventions and activities in the Lingayen Gulf MKBA under the various deliverables.

Lingayen Gulf MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Support the conduct of policy forum as a feed-backing mechanism for academic, institutional and government studies to guide policy-makers				
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Identify at least one best practice, peculiar character or challenges as possible case studies	O	C		
Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs				
Support activities relevant to the improvement or application of EAFM benchmarking	O	C		
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Facilitate the conduct of orientation-training on Marine Spatial Planning to focal LGUs and relevant partners (NGAs, NGOs, academe, other stakeholder groups)	C			
Support the conduct of fisheries law enforcement trainings in focal LGUs in collaboration with the Provincial Government	O	O	O	O
Conduct series of training including needs assessment for BFAR regional QRT	O	O	O	O
Provide support to build the capacity of NGAs, LGUs and partner organizations in undertaking, developing and disseminating information, education and communication products to support EAFM efforts (MPA, Closed Season, Enforcement, inter-local cooperation, PPPs) in the MKBA	O	O	O	O
Provide support to fish examiners training				
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				

Support activities that will provide opportunities for PPP in the area of livelihood/enterprise development, MPAs and enforcement	O	O	O	O
Support activities that will promote sustainable livelihoods such as sea cucumber natural ranching and the like with DMMSU	O	O	O	O
Support activities that will provide opportunities for aquaculture or mariculture to prosper	O	O	O	O
Facilitate entry of skills development service providers	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Support the conduct of assessment and monitoring of enforcement condition in the MKBA	O	O	C	
Conduct monitoring of governance benchmarks in the focal areas	O	O	O	C
Deliverable 8: Scientific studies on selected MKBA-specific fish species				
Support the conduct of data gathering to support siganid and ipon management	O	O	O	O
Support the conduct of community fora on closed season of Siganids and <i>ipon</i>	O	O	O	O
Support the conduct of feed backing session of seagrass assessment results to concerned LGUs	O	O	O	C
Provide technical assistance to LGUs in the establishment of marine reserve in seagrass areas for conservation of Siganid and shellfish	O	O	O	C
Support the drafting of appropriate policy instrument to manage Siganids and <i>ipon</i>	O	O	O	O
Support activities leading to the establishment of trophic interaction (EwE model) and simulations of fishing effort configuration			O	O
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Provide technical assistance to strengthen existing MPAs including those supported under AMPA	O	O	O	C
Provide support and monitor the implementation of SAF	O	O	O	O
Support activities involving stakeholders that will promote and sustain MPA networks	O	O	O	O
Provide assistance in the collection of data on mangroves leading to joint governmental efforts to manage and rehabilitate mangroves	O	O	O	O
Support the establishment of mangrove management areas in Bauang and Aringay		O	O	O
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Support the conduct of an inter-local, inter-agency alliance forum to finalize management structure, tasks, funds available, election of officers, secretariat	O	O	O	O
Provide support towards the development of a Marine Spatial Plan including series of workshops and consultations incorporating economic criteria in use prioritization, field validations, drafting of MSP document and related policy instruments	O	O	O	O
Support the conduct of regular meetings of key partners and focal persons to update and continuously promote EAFM in an inter-local, inter-agency environment	O	O	O	O

Provide support in the development, finalization and submission of inter-LGU fisheries management plan	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Provide assistance to LGUs in the development of policy to support licensing of municipal fishing boats and gears	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Provide support in the conduct of exploratory meetings, scoping missions and consultations that may result to revenue generation systems, or user fee schemes	O	C		
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the MKBA				
Conduct exploratory meetings with heads of CSR programs of companies based in or operating in Lingayen Gulf	O	O	O	O
Explore partnerships with donors and or proponents of existing programs and projects on livelihood and tourism	O	O	O	O
Support business planning and organizational development activities		O	O	O
Deliverable 14: Advanced Trainings Advanced Trainings in Specialized Fisheries Management (SFM) Interventions for Inter-LGU Alliance				
Advanced trainings in fisheries, MPA assessment and socioeconomics				
Advanced trainings provided to key partners in fisheries related to SFM and intensified interventions			O	O
Advanced trainings in fishery law enforcement				
Fish examiners training in the MKBA			O	O
Fisheries summits				
Fisheries summit in the MKBA			O	O

Highlights of Key Site-Level Activities/Accomplishments:

- The La Union Baywatch Network for Sustainable Fisheries (LUBNSF) was reactivated in 2015. During the first quarter of 2016, the LUBNSF reviewed and agreed on the organizational structure of the LUBNSF, as well as that of the LUBNSF CLE Action Group, reviewed the draft Executive Order (which was finalized by the Provincial Legal Office and is now with the Governor's Office for signature), and approved the Action Plans prepared by respective LGUs. Other agreements specifically made by the CLE TWG were the adoption of the Operations Protocol and agreement on Operation Plan Lambong as presented by the PNP Province. In addition, during the past months, the Mayors issued memos on CLE team members and the PNP issued a memo on PNP Baywatch members. More issues, such as the organizational structure, needs to be threshed out.
- During earlier discussions of the La Union Baywatch Network for Sustainable Fisheries supported by ECOFISH, the Province of La Union decided to pursue a Provincial Integrated Fisheries Ordinance. The Governor eventually signed this in June 2016. The Office of the Provincial Agriculturist was tasked to come up with a draft Implementing Rules and

Regulations of said ordinance. The project provided feedback to the draft IRR during an OPAG presentation to FARMCs of La Union, held in September 2016.



Meeting of the Technical Working Group of the La Union Baywatch Network for Sustainable Fisheries to discuss relevant documents towards strengthening of the inter-local government alliance.

- A Mangrove Eco-guides Training was conducted in partnership with the Shore It Up Foundation where the mangrove ecology aspect was highlighted and practical fieldwork conducted.
- Various trainings related to mangrove forest ecology and management were conducted with concerned fisherfolk in selected coastal barangays of Alaminos City, Pangasinan. The course was meant to increase their appreciation for their mangrove habitats as an ecology and as a potential source of livelihood related to eco-tourism. It was also a part of the organizational development of partner peoples' organizations in these barangays.



The establishment of a mangrove forest belt in Alaminos City is one of the project's interventions in the area. ECOFISH facilitated the training on mangrove identification and ecology for the Bued Mangrove Forest Park ecoguides.

- For the La Union Province, a Training of Trainers (TOT) on Mangrove and Beach Forest Rehabilitation and Conservation was done for a core group involving both relevant agencies as DA-BFAR and DENR, the academe Don Mariano Marcos State University, partner local government units and a concerned fisherfolk association. The training led to on-site initiatives such as mangrove identification and pursuance of mangrove protection ordinances as is the case of Santo Tomas.



Trainees from La Union learn about appropriate mangrove species for planting in seaward areas and learn about the proper way of seeding. They returned to La Union and conducted mangrove identification in their respective areas.

- The establishment of new marine protected areas is being done from both the site office and SAF partner Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU). The MPAs currently being established are a Mangrove and AR Protected Areas in Bauang, a Mangrove Area in Aringay, a Seagrass Reserve in Santo Tomas, and a Seashell Reserve in Rosario (all in La Union), as well as the Bued Mangrove Forest Ecopark in Bued, Alaminos City, and a mangrove forest belt in Alaminos City. All of these are meant to eventually lead to an MPA Network. The initial steps for all these new MPAs conducted so far are community consultations, consultation with partner LGUs, presentation of draft ordinances to concerned bodies, such as the Protected Area Management Board PAMB, and an initial MPA planning session with concerned LGU partners and stakeholders. The ECOFISH internal MPA Network workshop facilitated by MERF provided a framework for understanding and guided implementation.
- With the Willingness to Pay survey completed, it was presented and included in the draft ordinances establishing the Bued Mangrove Forest Ecopark. This, along with another ordinance establishing the Alaminos Mangrove Forestbelt, were presented to Mayor Arthur Celeste of Alaminos City. He welcomed the efforts and gave additional suggestions to proceed further. The ordinances will be submitted by the City Administrator to the City Council for deliberation.
- The Siganid Value Chain was presented during BFAR's Fishery Industry Forum with Stakeholders in Lingayen. Stakeholders included fisherfolk associations, commercial fishers, processors, and local government units of Region 1. The presentation was linked to opportunities to invest in BFAR's siganid culture program.
- Potential enterprises were identified in Alaminos City, Pangasinan. These include kayaking/boat rental along mangrove rivers, food production for tourists, and possibly organic farming using the *bahay kubo* concept. An advertisement for a Special Activity Fund SAF partner to engage in implementing social enterprise in the Lingayen Gulf MKBA was released the last quarter.
- Potential enterprises identified in La Union include mangrove nurseries in Bauang and activation of the existing fish hatchery in Bauang using solar energy.
- Phases of organizational development activities were conducted for key partner people's organizations including values, leadership, gender sensitivity, financial management and an

orientation to the ecosystems approach to fisheries management or EAFM.



Consultations with stakeholders, orientations for fisherfolks, and various trainings for peoples organizations are part of the participatory process being facilitated by the project in the Lingayen Gulf MKBA.

- Dynamite fishing is the number one threat in the waters of Agoo, La Union as well as in the wider province. This issue came out during a Fisherfolk Dialogue on August 9, 2016, with fishers of Agoo. The Mission Director of USAID, Dr. Susan Brems, joined the fisherfolk dialogue. Participants threshed out possible strategies to address this issue.



Activities during the visit of USAID including the Mission Director's dialogue with the fisherfolk in Agoo, La Union.

- A series of coastal law enforcement trainings were conducted, such as Basic Coastal Law Enforcement, MPA Guards training for San Fernando City, on the use of GPS and VHF radios, paralegal training, and a stakeholder engagement and strategic communications training. This is to aid in the strengthening of municipal coastal law enforcement teams, some of which still require reorganization, although other teams work strongly together.

- The ECOFISH project supported the City FARMC of San Fernando City during the evaluation of the CFARMC for the National Gawad Saka Awards 2016 with its presence, along with other support agencies. The CFARMC won second place in the 2015 Gawad Saka Awards and is looking forward to a better position in 2016.
- The strengthening of the FARMCs is deemed necessary to promote the interests of fishers in policy-making and implementation. A workshop on strengthening the FARMC Committees of La Union was conducted on July 2016 to emphasize the roles of the eight FARMC committees in reporting. Their outputs were consolidated by the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist. The project has suggested that this be presented to the Governor.
- The Marine Spatial Planning Workshop was conducted last October 2016. This was followed by a series of field validations, which were completed in April 2016, in time for the Marine Spatial Planning Writeshop. It was targeted that the first draft of the MSP Plan be finished by partners within the month of July 2016. An MSP ad-hoc Technical Working Group was thereby convened in July 2016 to discuss details of the draft MSP. Inputs were made to each section.



Marine Spatial Planning activities conducted for the focal area in the Lingayen Gulf MKBA included mapping of current uses, remapping to reduce conflict, field validation and consultation with stakeholders on the proposed zoning areas.

5.4. Ticao Pass – San Bernardino Strait - Lagonoy Gulf

In Year 4, the Project strategized its approach in Ticao Pass-San Bernardino Strait-Lagonoy Gulf. Increase in fish biomass will be approached in two directions: (1) through the promotion of a seasonal closure for certain species of fish like *lawlaw* and a permanent closure of marine waters as fish sanctuaries or marine protected areas, and (2) through the provision of support to local governments in Sorsogon and Northern Samar to enhance enforcement of fishery laws and improve compliance to restrictions for commercial fishing operations and laws governing marine protected areas.

Scoping missions were conducted to explore ecotourism-based social enterprises like tour guiding, tourist boat operations, home stay programs, souvenir making, wellness centers, and catering services in Sorsogon and Northern Samar. The LGUs were assisted in the review and drafting of ordinances on closed-season and gear-specific management for Bulan and San Vicente. The team conducted meetings and made agreements with a law group in Bicol and in Leyte to support more local policies.

It is also this year that the project initiated and facilitated the creation of an Inter-LGU alliance in Sorsogon through the formation of a Technical Working Group.

Moreover, one social enterprise in Sorsogon has kicked off.

The table below summarizes the status of (O-ongoing; C-completed) of interventions and activities in the Ticao Pass –San Bernardino Strait- Lagonoy Gulf MKBA under the various deliverables.

Ticao Pass- San Bernardino-Lagonoy Gulf MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Support the conduct of a multi-stakeholder public policy forum that will tackle issues in EAFM, MPA and Climate Change such as marine spatial planning, enforcement and the like	O	O	O	O
Support in the conduct of RTD and formal discussions about legal remedies, alternative dispute resolutions and applicable summary procedures for islands and areas with judicial access challenges	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Support the identification and writing of at least one (1) a case study in Northern Samar and Sorsogon that will demonstrate success, challenges or lessons learned from promoting/implementing in EAFM, MPA and Climate resiliency	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs				
Support activities related to data gathering, information management and training on the use of an EAFM database	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				

Support the conduct of a series of training of the BFAR QRT in Regions 5 and 8 with emphasis on the issues confronted by the MKBA	O	O	O	O
Support the conduct of basic fishery law enforcement coinciding with BFAR QRT/PNP trainings	O	O	O	O
Support the conduct trainings to support compliance promotions and enforcement, livelihoods and tourism at the local level	O	O	O	O
Support in the conduct of enforcement training for Marine Protected Areas especially those supported under AMPA	O	O	O	O
Facilitate the conduct of MSP orientation-training to focal LGUs and relevant partners (NGAs, NGOs, academe, other stakeholder groups)	O	C		
Support the conduct of IEC and social mobilization training for select LGUs and partners	O	O	O	O
Support the conduct of an executive course for mayors, SPs/SBs and MAOs as part of the exit mechanism	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Support activities that will promote and create community partnerships under the direction of NEDA	O	O	O	O
Provide support in establishing, mobilizing and building capacities of peoples organizations geared towards social enterprises	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Support activities that will provide venue to present the results of the fisheries, socioeconomic, enforcement and governance monitoring	O	O	O	C
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Provide support for the species-specific management study on sardines (<i>lawlaw</i>)	O	O	O	O
Conduct forums to communicate the result of the study for the management of sardines	O	O	O	O
Support activities leading to the establishment of trophic interaction (EwE model) and simulations of fishing effort configuration	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Provide support to LGUs in the identification/site selection of MPAs	O	O	C	
Provide support to LGUs in the legitimization process of the candidate MPAs	O	O	O	O
Provide support in the creation and strengthening of a network of MPAs	O	O	O	O
Collaborate with agencies, NGOs, POs, academic institutions and other donors in promoting and establishing network of MPAs	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Facilitate the creation and regular meeting of a voluntary multi-agency, multi-stakeholder, and multi-agency working group to serve as a sounding board and critical mass to promote integrated approach to fisheries management	O	O	O	O
Support in the conduct of intra and inter LGU, inter-agency and multi stakeholder forum or summit to discuss common fisheries agenda	O	O	O	O

Provide support to activities leading to the development of a Marine Spatial Plan for the MKBA, such as series of workshops and consultations incorporating economic criteria in use prioritization, field validations, drafting of MSP document and related policy instruments	O	O	O	O
Facilitate the conduct of support activities to Marine Spatial Planning and resource use allocation, including site validations, municipal water delineation, stakeholders consultations, IEC, etc.	O	O	O	O
Provide support to national agencies such as BFAR and the PNP and local government units in the formation and strengthening of municipal-based compliance and enforcement teams	O	O	O	O
Provide support to the conduct of a road-show to orient and update the newly elected leaders on the milestones of project implementation	O	O	O	O
Facilitate the conduct of inter-LGU fisheries management planning for focal area LGUs and support activities toward the formulation of the Inter-LGU Fisheries Management Plan	O	O	O	O
Provide support in the conduct of participatory planning to prepare for exit and sustainability measures mechanism	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Provide support to the BFAR and LGUs in implementing the FishR and the BoatR	O	O	O	O
Provide support in the identification of LGUs with existing licensing ordinance and assess their implementation	O	O	O	O
Provide assistance on the development of policy to support registration and licensing of municipal fishing boat and gears.	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Provide support in activities leading to establishment of tourism fees in Northern Samar	O	O	O	O
Provide support in activities leading to the establishment of auxiliary invoice taxes for Sorsogon LGUs	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the MKBA				
Provide support in scoping missions that will identify potential ecotourism-based enterprises like tour guiding, boat operations, home stay programs and catering services in Samar	O	O	O	C
Provide support in scoping missions that will lead to identification of appropriate post-harvest program	O	O	O	O
Support activities that will identify and mobilize MKBA-based or external support to sustainable financing programs	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 14: Advanced Trainings Advanced Trainings in Specialized Fisheries Management (SFM) Interventions for Inter-LGU Alliance				
Advanced trainings in fisheries, MPA assessment and socioeconomics				
Advanced trainings provided to key partners in fisheries related to SFM and intensified interventions			O	O
Advanced trainings in fishery law enforcement				

Fish examiners training in the MKBA			O	O
Fisheries summits				
Fisheries summit in the MKBA			O	O

Highlights of Key Site-Level Activities/Accomplishments:

- ECOFISH assisted LGU Bulan and San Vicente draft ordinance on regulation of the harvesting of sardines using fishing light attractors and fine mesh nets, and establishment of closed-season for juvenile *S. lewini* or Chevrolet. The site team facilitated public consultations on the proposed policies. LGU Bulan is seeking assistance in determining maximum number of lightbulbs used in sapyaw and pakurat fishing.
- Prieto Diaz showed interest in the review of their policy on siganid regulation and requested literatures and scientific studies on “turos”. In June this year, focused group discussions in four coastal barangays were initiated by the team to gather indigenous knowledge on siganids.
- The field documentation for the creation of Project Information Kit happened this year. During these field visits, the following case study ideas/topics were generated: (1) women managed MPA in Matnog, Sorsogon, (2) reward system for fishers returning and releasing by-catch pawikan, and (3) *pakurat* gear innovation in San Vicente, Northern Samar. Schedule of case study research is set in the first quarter.
- Year 4 benchmarking monitoring was completed in LGU Capul, Biri, Bulan, Matnog, Sta. Magdalena, and Gubat, alongside with the collection of supporting documents. Due to new guidelines developed by the M&E team, most LGUs showed drop in their benchmarking scores, especially LGUs who lost their documents during typhoons. The site team is continuously collating all documents available upon field visit.
- Lastly, to support more local policies, the site team has attempted to collaborate with SALIGAN, a local law group in Bicol and ELAC in Leyte. Agreement was successful on the latter which will cover Northern Samar LGUs. Another Manila-based lawyer will cover policy development work for Sorsogon LGUs.
- EAFM lectures and EAFM trainings have been continuously given to the stakeholders, especially to the fisherfolk during consultations and trainings. To further promote EAFM, films on fisheries management were shown during these meetings.
- Lectures on EAFM and Law Enforcement were conducted during the four-day Fishery Law Enforcement Training in Prieto Diaz in collaboration with the LGU, USAID-World Food Programme, Philippine Coast Guard, and BFAR. These were likewise done during Organizational Development Training for Sta. Magdalena Peoples’ Organizations funded by the USAID-WFP.
- Meetings with PNP Regional Office 5 and BFAR 5 QRT Chief was made to discuss the establishment of PEDO in Bicol Region. PEDO was launched on March 17-18, 2016, and orientation on PEDO establishment was given to PNP Region 5 officers. This was followed by a meeting with Sorsogon PPO to discuss program and schedule of PEDO Training.
- A meeting with Navy CMO Chief took place to discuss possible collaboration on community development in Bulan.

- During the RLECC Fisheries Sub-Committee Meeting, ECOFISH shared insights/lessons from when Tañon Strait was declared as a protected seascape. The body agreed that the proposed Ticao Pass-Burias Pass seascape by DENR, composed of 16 LGUs should be reviewed carefully.



Activities during the various levels of fishery law enforcement training for BFAR's Quick Response Team of BFAR Region 5.

- In partnership with BFAR 5, 4 levels of QRT Trainings have been given to the QRT Personnel and PNP Maritime this year: (1) Instructor's Development Course, (2) Media Relations, Presentations, and Communications Skills Training, (3) Maritime Law Enforcement Training: GPS and Chart Plotting, (4) Operations Planning.
- ECOFISH TPSBSLG celebrated the Month of the Ocean in collaboration with LGU Bulan and BFAR by conducting a one-day EAFM Orientation and Consultation and a four-day Coastal Clean-up, scubasurero, COT extraction, and film showing in the coastal communities of Bulan. PNP and PCG supported the activity.
- The site also celebrated the World's Ocean Day, which took place during the MPA assessment in Northern Samar.
- Separate trainings on Basic Coastal and Fisheries Law Enforcement Training for Northern Samar and Sorsogon LGU Law Enforcement Teams and PNP were conducted in the last quarter following the 1.5 days Fishery Law Enforcement Assessment.
- The LGUs formulated an indicative plan as a result of the FLE assessment. The first step for most of the LGUs is to legalize the creation of their FLE team through Executive Orders. Two months after the assessment and training on FLE, Sta. Magdalena and Prieto Diaz enacted the creation and deputation of their FLE teams.
- LGU Bulan, in partnership with PNP, commenced their three-day consultation activity with the barangay officials tagged as "Tungod ko, Bantay ko". The site team was invited as resource speaker. Barangay officials were asked to sign a commitment letter afterwards and a billboard RA 10654 was installed per barangay.

- In preparation for the social enterprises, 2 community organizers were hired this year tasked to do social preparations through mentoring and coaching eight community partners. Some POs were assisted in the drafting of their by-laws.



Various activities during the EAFM appreciation training designed by the project primarily for People's Organizations.

- Four People's Organizations in Capul, Northern Samar received training on the rudiments of EAFM. The objective is for POs to appreciate the basic concepts of ecosystems approach to managing fisheries resources.
- ECOFISH linked Samahan ng Kababaihang Bantay Sanktuaryo ng Calintaan, Matnog (SKBSCM) to Technical Education and Skills Development Association and to Department of Labor and Employment to alternative livelihood projects.
- ECOFISH partnered with SPPI for the social preparation of POs in Capul.
- LGU Sta. Magdalena hosted an organizational diagnosis activity for their POs, with ECOFISH as resource speakers. The diagnosis results showed that the POs lack some skills that are essential to the organization. ECOFISH responded to this by conducting organizational development trainings on: VMG formulation, Organizational Planning, and Basic Leadership.



Mr. Alfredo Lazarte, ECOFISH's Community Partnership Specialist conducted basic leadership training and organizational diagnosis to 4 fisheries organizations in Sta. Magdalena, Sorsogon.

- UP MSI-MERF completed the MPA survey in Sta. Magdalena just this year. The results of the MPA, Fisheries, Law Enforcement and Socio Economic Household Survey, and Governance Benchmarking were all presented to the LGUs in August and to Sorsogon LGUs

during the Inter-LGU Fisheries Management Planning. It will be used as basis for the drafting of the plan.

- A supplemental gear inventory was executed to complete data gaps. Eight enumerators were trained.
- The reproductive biology study on sardines, which started in September 2015 and extended until June has been completed. Encoding has also been completed in September. The extension for three months was due to the initial results of the study and the community and LGU of Bulan's response. Although it is clear that the peak season for spawners are from November to December, a further study is needed to monitor for the second cycle of spawners. The LGU and the community on the other hand, are more interested in regulating the catch of juvenile lawlaw and regulating the use of fine mesh nets. The initial result was presented to the stakeholders.
- In response to the request of LGU Prieto Diaz to do a scientific study on siganid in relation to their review of ordinances, ECOFISH conducted FGDs in four barangays. Results show that the peak season of siganid is from January to May. Spawners are highly observed and caught



Consultation with stakeholders to pin down the appropriate days for the seasonal closure for the management of rabbit fish in Prieto Diaz.

January to March; juveniles from April to May, usually three days before new moon. Results were presented to LGU.

- During the scoping in Capul, Northern Samar, it was found out that tunas are abundant in the area from June to December. The results of the gear inventory in Capul may show significant data.
- The result of the supplemental gear inventory will also be used in right-sizing of gears. LGU Bulan and LGU Prieto Diaz are particularly targeting fish corral for the right sizing. In addition, LGU Bulan is seeking assistance in determining the maximum number of light bulbs used in sapyaw and pakurat fishing.
- Consultations and orientations on MPA establishments were conducted in Prieto Diaz and Sta. Magdalena during this period. Initial assessment of possible MPAs in these two LGUs also took place.
- The site staff facilitated community consultation on rehabilitation of MARILAG Fish Sanctuary in Prieto Diaz. Rehabilitation commenced this year and new buoys and markers were installed under the BUB Project.

- The biophysical assessment of proposed MPAs in four LGUs was executed this quarter. The results were presented two months later. Based on the consultation with stakeholders, LGU Capul intends to establish at least three- small-sized MPAs and San Vicente, one. Prieto Diaz stakeholders declined to put up a new MPA but recommended instead that the existing MPA ordinance, covering 120 hectares be implemented strictly. LGU Sta. Magdalena will set up one MPA under the WFP Project.



Some underwater photos taken during the assessment of proposed MPAs in the four municipalities of Sorsogon along the San Bernardino Strait.

- Existing MEAT results were collected as baseline for the monitoring and updating of MEAT.
- The site team also conducted coastal resource mapping activities in two barangays of Sta. Magdalena, both areas of proposed MPA, and one barangay in Prieto Diaz, also an MPA area. Seasonality calendars were also made.
- LGU Matnog and Bulan, PNP Maritime, and BFAR made an agreement to make Calintaan Fish Sanctuary and Butag MPA an Adopt-a-Marine Protected Area site. The MOU is being processed by BFAR. However, this was deferred by the change of administration in both LGUs and the change of PNP Maritime Chief in Bicol.
- LGU Bulan proposed an ordinance redesigning the Butag Bay MPA, making the core zone smaller but covering more of the coral area but not displacing fishers using traditional gears. LGU Bulan hopes that this will resolve the lack of community support because traditional fishing rights were not considered when the MPA was established in 1999. This scheme has consequently been adopted by the LGU when it submitted a proposal requesting funding assistance from the Global Environmental Facility Component of the World Bank-funded Philippine Rural Development Project, which the site team assisted in drafting of proposal.
- ECOFISH conducted an orientation on Marine Spatial Planning for four LGUs (Bulan, Matnog, Sta. Magdalena, and Prieto Diaz) and followed by an MSP writeshop and validation. The gathering of data on MSP economic valuation was completed in September.
- The site participated and facilitated the Provincial LGU's focus group discussion on addressing priority issues in mangrove reforestation and aquaculture in Sorsogon. Sorsogon Bay LGUs were the participants in this event.
- ECOFISH collaborated with LIKAS and Social Action Center in the reactivation of three IFARMCs in Sorsogon Province headed by the Provincial Government. The team arranged the hosting of Sta. Magdalena for the first Integrated FARMC meeting. The meeting was attended by six LGUs, with ECOFISH as facilitator. The former provincial fishery officer was invited to share the IFARMC history, as well as lessons from the past. The main issue identified was the lack of fund allocation from BFAR and LGUs.
- The site team joins the invitation of ABS-CBN Lingkod Kapamilya Foundation and SERVEGATE Inc. to be a member of the TWG for Eco-Tourism in Sorsogon. Other

members are DOT, TESDA, DTI, and DA. The pilot coverage of the program is only Sorsogon City, Juban, and Gubat.

- Five LGUs in Sorsogon were convened for an Inter-LGU Fisheries Resources Management Planning. The common goal that the five LGUs agreed on is the enactment of water delineation ordinance in the areas. This would need a venue for negotiation of water boundary disputes. The second goal is the creation of an inter-LGU alliance. A TWG has been formed.
- The TWG called for its first meeting in September. A MOA on the creation of Sorsogon Pacific Coast Inter-LGU Alliance was drafted. Local chief executives are now reviewing the MOA and we are awaiting all LGUs to execute an SB Resolution to enter into a MOA.
- The site team did an initial review of the ordinances on fisheries registration and licensing system. All LGUs have registration ordinance but not all have licensing schemes, or they may have but it is already outdated (some of them ten to fifteen years ago).
- Focal LGUs in Sorsogon have finished the fisherfolk registration, but not all have uploaded to the database system. Bulan has won the Top 100 FishR LGUs. BoatR has commenced in Sorsogon LGUs. Prieto Diaz won Top 100 BoatR.
- All Northern Samar LGUs however are still completing their FishR and hardly started on BoatR.
- The ECOFISH team conducted an FGD on user fees in Capul, San Vicente, Gubat, and Prieto Diaz. Only Prieto Diaz has auxiliary fee ordinance. The team targets Bulan, Matnog, and Sta. Magdalena to set up auxiliary fees. For tourist fee, only Biri and Matnog have ordinances.
- The willingness to pay survey in Capul, San Vicente, and Gubat, which started in March, went on until June 30. The results show that tourists are willing to pay up to PhP 50, which they prefer to use for livelihood opportunities, monitoring and maintenance of coral reefs and resources, and enforcement. The results were presented to LGUs. The project will hire a lawyer who will assist the LGUs in the drafting and lobbying of ordinance.
- The other sources of revenues the project is eyeing are the fishing permits for fish corrals in Bulan and Prieto Diaz. This will also need review and drafting of ordinance.
- The team scoped for feasible enterprise ideas and community partners in Gubat, San Vicente, Capul, and Prieto Diaz. Capul is targeted for ecotourism. Souvenir making is seen as a potential for enterprise with the cruise ship passengers as market. Gubat and Matnog will be directed to eco-tourism as well, focusing on both souvenir making and wellness center. Sta. Magdalena PO, with WFP and BFAR as partners will engage in Aquasilviculture.
- Two enterprise development coordinators were hired to facilitate social enterprise interventions in Sorsogon and Capul.
- In September this year, two artists commissioned by the Project scoped for souvenir making ideas and design.
- Also in September, ECOFISH in partnership with TESDA conducted skills training on wellness massage and table skirting to the women's organization in Matnog. Included in the training package is a start-up kit they can use for the wellness massage. DOLE, through the LGU, on the other hand, pledged to award the organization a heat press machine as additional input to the souvenir-making venture, which ECOFISH identified and scoped. A week after the training, PO members started engaging in massage services.
- ECOFISH subcontracted Sentro ha Pagpauswag ha Panginabuhi, Inc. (SPPI) for the

implementation of social enterprise in Capul.

- The Value Chain Report on *Sardinella lemuru* was finalized and presented to stakeholders

Unplanned Activities

- Maritime requested the site coordinator to be part of the regional advisory council. Election and oath taking took place in February 2016. Site coordinator was elected as vice-president.
- Meeting with Bicol Consortium Development Initiative on possible collaboration on Fisheries Management. BCDI's focal area is Burias Pass and Ticao Pass.
- Exploratory meeting with WWF Tuna Project-Lagonoy Gulf Project Manager for possible collaboration on FLE trainings. WWF Tuna Project is focused now on catch monitoring and post-harvest trainings.
- Supported OCEANA in sardine documentary film making through ground working and providing baseline data.
- EOFISH facilitated a conflict resolution meeting between Bulan and PNP Maritime Group that resulted in an agreement to revive the PNP-MG Station in Bulan. LGU Bulan offered a space inside Sabang Beach Resort, which is an LGU, operated resort but PNP Maritime eventually used the vacant space inside the PCG compound. Unfortunately, a new administration took over and a new PNP MG chief was assigned.
- Some 136 recipients of fiberglass boats under DSWD-BUB Program in Bulan, Sorsogon were oriented on Sustainable Fishing Practices, Marine Protected Area and EAFM by ECOFISH. This is part of the Skills Training on Boat and Gear Maintenance conducted from September 8 to 9 and organized by LGU Bulan. A total of 68 fiberglass boats were awarded to 136 recipients, each boat will be shared by two. To promote social responsibility among fishers, all the recipients have pledged to become a Bantay Dagat and the local chief executive will soon deputize them.
- ECOFISH is assisting LGU Prieto Diaz from time to time in the documentation, tagging, and release of green sea turtle surrendered by fish corral fishers.

Activities Not Accomplished and Why

- The MPA network training supposed to be conducted in September was postponed to give way to activities with high priorities like social enterprises. Also, we are in the process of establishing new MPAs.
- The sardine bottling skills training to Bulan POs was moved because no SAF Subcontractor is on board yet.
- Organizational development training (level 1) for POs was rescheduled to next year and was replaced by EAFM training instead.

5.5. South Negros Island MKBA

For our fourth year of implementation, the activities in Southern Negros Island MKBA were focused on continuing our efforts in the establishment of new MPAs and network of MPAs, support to environment-friendly enterprises and revenue generation mechanisms to have more

direct contribution towards increase in fish biomass and people gaining employment or better employment.

Moreover, in order to ensure sustainability of EAFM initiatives at the LGU and inter-LGU levels, we have prioritized improving the levels of the focal LGU's benchmarks by embarking on marine spatial planning and capacity building on goal-oriented fish catch monitoring. This will serve as basis for fisheries management particularly on the use of beach seine (*sahid/baling*), improved management of MPAs, fisheries compliance promotion, and enforcement. With the existing inter-LGU alliances, institutional arrangements to implement EAFM are strengthened through building capacity of national, provincial, and municipal partners in implementing EAFM and, at the same time, facilitating the replication of EAFM in other areas.

The table below summarizes the status of (O-ongoing; C-completed) of interventions and activities in the Southern Negros Island MKBA under the various deliverables.

Southern Negros Island MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Provide technical and legal assistance leading to amendment of city/municipal fisheries ordinances as a follow up activity in Negros Oriental and Occidental	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Support the drafting of at least one (3) case studies on best practices resulting from Project intervention such in the area of coastal law enforcement among others	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs				
Assist in the collection of existing data in the area on fisheries resources management for the national data base on EAFM	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Support activities leading to a participatory development of posters, brochures and other collaterals that will support enforcement and other EAFM efforts	C			
Support the conduct of a series of training for Regional QRT members of regions 6 and 7 in cooperation with Danajon MKBA	C			
Support the conduct of compliance and enforcement training of inter-agency, inter-LGU law enforcement groups or task forces	O	C		
Facilitate the conduct of MSP orientation-training to focal LGUs and relevant partners (NGAs, NGOs, academe, other stakeholder groups)	C			
Facilitate the conduct of goal-oriented fish catch monitoring training for LGU technical personnel and other relevant stakeholders/partners	C			
Provide technical support in the conduct of coastal vulnerability assessment for Negros Oriental LGUs	O	C		
Provide appropriate training to the Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Management Council for Basay	C			

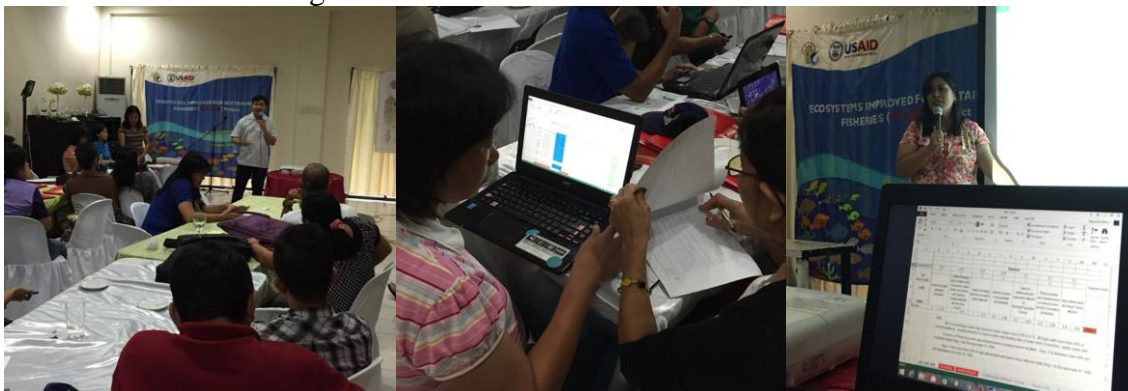
Support the training of Police Environment Desk Officers, prosecutors, judges and municipal enforcement teams on new fishery and relevant laws	O	O	O	O
Facilitate EAFM benchmarking for Y3 and Y4	C			
Conduct continuous vetting under Leahy Vetting regulation of law enforcement and security personnel	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Support activities that will expand Project Net-Works in Southern Negros	O	O	O	O
Undertake efforts to consolidate of data collected in 11 LGUs	O			
Support activities in coordination with ZSL and ATFI regarding the introduction of Community Savings and Credit Associations (CoMSCAs)	O	O	O	O
Support activities leading to the establishment of buying stations in coordination with ATFI	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Facilitate presentation of the 3 rd year monitoring results to partners	O	C		
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Conduct FGD on beach seine/ baling operation with the fisherfolks and relevant stakeholders	C			
Conduct feed-backing sessions, dialogues, and consultations with beach seine operators especially where women are actively involved	O	O	C	
Support the conduct of public consultations and workshops leading to the drafting and passage of an appropriate regulatory ordinance for beach seine operations	O	O	C	
Facilitate baseline assessment and support monitoring activities in areas where beach seine management intervention is to be implemented	O	O	O	O
Support activities leading to the establishment of trophic interaction (EwE model) and simulations of fishing effort configuration			O	O
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Support activities leading to the the establishment of new MPAs with the SNCDMC and PCV (Sta. Catalina, Hinobaan, Sipalay and Cauayan)	O	O	O	O
Provide oversight and monitor implementation of the Special Activities Fund	O	O	O	O
Provide administrative and technical assistance in the conduct of MEAT assessment in all MPAs	O	C		
Support the conduct of trainings for authorized guards of Andulay, Bonbonon and Salag of Siaton, among others	O	C		
Support activities leading to the establishment of MPA Network	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Organize meetings and workshops to draft CFRM Plans of Cauayan and Basay	O	C		
Facilitate discussions and writeshops on the finalization of South Negros Inter-LGU Fisheries Management Plan (EAFM Framework Plan)	C			

Support activities leading to the development of a Marine Spatial Plan for the MKBA, such as series of workshops and consultations incorporating economic criteria in use prioritization, field validations, drafting of MSP document and related policy instruments	C			
Provide support in the re-organization of MFARMC in Cauayan	C			
Provide support and facilitate signing of revised CLEC MOU (South Negros Oriental and CFRM)	O	O	O	O
Conduct regular updating and coordination meetings with key (core) Project partners, from the BFAR and the LGUs	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Provide technical and legal support in the revision of ordinance on boat and vessel registration	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Support the conduct of a workshop to present user fee survey results in Siaton and Hinobaan	O	C		
Support the conduct of a writeshop in developing user fee ordinance for Siaton and Hinobaan	O	O		
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Provide support to partner NGOs in enhancing and in monitoring the implementation of the SEMFISH	O	O	O	O
Finalize and present the value chain study of tuna	O	C		
Deliverable 14: Advanced Trainings Advanced Trainings in Specialized Fisheries Management (SFM) Interventions for Inter-LGU Alliance				
Advanced trainings in fisheries, MPA assessment and socioeconomics				
Advanced trainings provided to key partners in fisheries related to SFM and intensified interventions			O	O
Advanced trainings in fishery law enforcement				
Fish examiners training in the MKBA			O	O
Fisheries summits				
Fisheries summit in the MKBA			O	O

Highlights of Key Site-Level Activities/Accomplishments:

- The ECOFISH site team co-organized and served as resource person and facilitator in the Training on Technical Writing for Coastal Vulnerability and Mangrove Assessment Report for coastal LGUs of Negros Occidental. It involved 20 coastal LGUs of Negros Occidental. The main objective for this training is to build the capacity of the LGU and the Provincial Environment and Management Office (PEMO) to analyse and write technical reports. Each coastal LGU has drafted Coastal Vulnerability assessment (CVA) reports as input to their Comprehensive Land Use Plans (CLUPs) and a consolidated/ province wide analysis and report was done by PEMO to be incorporated in the Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plan (PDPFP).

- After several rounds of review of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) of the 3rd District Coastal Law Enforcement Council (CLEC), the group intends to expand the partnership among CLEC member LGUs, namely Siaton, Sta. Catalina, and Bayawan City to include all aspects of Coastal Fisheries Resources Management (CFRM) and possibly with other neighboring LGUs. The proposed MOU is the creation of the BBASSDDA BAYZ Inter-LGU Alliance. The proposed change from coastal law enforcement to a wider management scope reflects the ecosystems approach to fisheries management (EAFM) and the District's openness to a bigger collaboration, i.e. mutual sharing of resources, experiences and expertise, with South Negros Oriental LGUs (Dumaguete City, Municipalities of Bacong, Dauin, Zamboangita, Siaton, Santa Catalina, Basay, Bayawan City) in partnership with the Province of Negros Oriental.



Participants during the Training on Technical Writing for Coastal Vulnerability and Mangrove Assessment Report for coastal LGUs of Negros Occidental, 06-07 October 2015

- In partnership with ATFI, fourteen POs in Negros Oriental and Occidental were assisted in completing the legal requirements for the Development of Social Enterprises for Fishing Communities in the Southern Negros MKBA (SEMFISH). Their registration varies from LGU accreditation, registration at the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).
- Based on the new government ruling concerning Civil Service Organizations (CSOs), NGOs, and community-based People's Organizations issued in 2015, the organizations will still have to register for accreditation with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to be able to apply for or avail of livelihood projects from government agencies and LGUs. The team is also assisting the POs to complete the said registration. Fourteen assisted POs are now preparing their written business plans for the selected enterprises.
- In Southern Negros, many MPAs have been established mostly through the efforts of academic institutions, NGOs, and the provincial governments of Negros Oriental and Negros Occidental. The USAID ECOFISH Project, in cooperation with these same groups and the DA-BFAR, is currently working to bring the establishment of solitary MPA units to a higher level of MPA networks where MPA effectiveness is greatly enhanced biologically - through ecological connectivity, and administratively - through unified management efforts. This is supported through the Special Activity Funds (SAF) of the Project being implemented by PRRCFI where the assistance will be directed at establishment and management of new MPAs (where potential increase in fish stocks is anticipated to be significant) and the establishment of the network of MPAs in the MKBA.



Provincial, municipal and concerned barangay officials and fisherfolk associations were invited during the series of consultations in Siaton, Sta. Catalina and Sipalay City to present the results of the underwater assessments

- An MPA baseline assessment and monitoring plan for the recommended MPA sites was also submitted by PRRCFI. Aside from providing technical assistance in the biophysical selection of new MPAs, the PRRCFI will also provide capacity building activities for concerned LGU staff and community members who will form part of the MPA management bodies. A series of trainings shall be conducted to develop the proper management for the newly established MPAs, as well as their eventual convergence into a network for Southern Negros.
- In the previous workshops, consultations and dialogues with fisherfolk and other stakeholders from the Municipality of Hinobaan and Siaton, the need to evaluate beach seine (*sahid/dalahis*) operations has been constantly raised. Together with the Office of Municipal Agriculturist, ECOFISH designed activities for the gathering and analysis of required scientific information to arrive at appropriate management recommendations for *sahid*. As preliminary activity, ECOFISH conducted a series of focus group discussions in October 2016 with *sahid/dalahis* operators in Siaton and Hinobaan.



Participants during the catch monitoring training and stakeholders consultation for the management of beach seine fisheries in South Negros MKBA at the Nabulao Beach Resort, Hinobaan composed of beach seine operators from selected barangays of Siaton and Hinobaan and technical personnel from Siaton, Sta. Catalina, Bayawan, Hinobaan and Cauayan, 04-06 November 2015.

- Catch Monitoring Training and Stakeholders Consultation for the Management of Beach Seine Fisheries in South Negros MKBA was organized on November 4-6, 2015 in Hinobaan to train beach seine operators from selected barangays of Siaton and Hinobaan, LGU technical personnel from Siaton, Sta. Catalina, Bayawan, Hinobaan, and Cauayan. The main objective for this training is to build local capacity of LGUs and other partner

institutions to conduct goal-oriented monitoring of municipal fisheries catch as basis for management.

- ECOFISH facilitated the Marine Spatial Planning and Identification of Fisheries and other Sea Uses of the Municipal Waters of South Negros MKBA. This activity was designed to orient the participants from the Southern Negros LGUs on the concept of MSP and fisheries use zoning. At the same time, it served as venue to map out fisheries activities and other uses of South Negros municipal waters, evaluate spatial use conflicts, complimentary uses, and socio-economic considerations in planning.



Marine Spatial Planning and Identification of Fisheries and other Sea Uses of the Municipal Waters of South Negros MKBA, 10-12 November 2015.

- As a follow-up activity to the MSP workshop the team visited the focal persons from the 7 partner LGUs last February 9-12, 2016 to conduct key informant interview and gathered data for resource valuation as an input to the Marine Spatial Planning and to validate the draft zoning maps.



Sharing of learning and insights during the two-day visit to Southern Cebu, the participants have also identified the actions they will take in order to adopt the strategies they have learned in different aspects of Integrated Coastal Management

ECOFISH facilitated the learning visit of the Technical Working Group members of the Southern Negros Coastal Development Management Council (SNCDMC), an alliance of three Local Government Units (Hinoba-an, Cauayan and Sipalay), to Southern Cebu (South Eastern Cebu Coastal Resource Management Council and the Municipalities of Argao, Dalaguete and Oslob) on 01-03 March 2016.

- In October 27 -30, 2015, an underwater survey and assessment of the proposed MPA in Bulwagan Reef in the municipality of Hinobaan was conducted with the underwater monitoring team of the SNCDMC.



The team surveyed the benthic community, population and inventory of the various flora and fauna of the proposed Bulwagan Reef MPA in the municipality of Hinobaan. The proposed MPA has a total area of 120 hectares (70 hectares marine reserve and 50 hectares of no take zone).

- The ECOFISH site team facilitated community partners monitoring last October 21-24, 2015. Key informant interviews were facilitated with several association leaders from Pagatban United Small Fishermen's Association(PUSFA), Lapagon Marginal Fishermen's Association (LAMIFIA), Pagatban Small Fishermen's Association and Villareal, Tinago, Boyco Fsherman's Association (VITIBOFA) in Bayawan City; Cawitan Fisherfolks Association and Caranoche Mangrove Community Association (CMCA) in Sta. Catalina and Andulay Fishermen's Association (AFA) , Palayuhan, Palinpinon, Si-it Multi-purpose Cooperative (PAPSIMCO), and San Jose Community Association in Siaton.
- The results of the underwater assessments in the three MPAs in Siaton were presented to the concerned LGU personnel and fisherfolk association representatives during the MPA Management Planning workshop on November 17-18, 2015, at Siaton Social Hall. The said results, including the 2015 MPA Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool (MEAT), were considered in identifying the priority strategies to improve fish biomass and coral cover in the three MPAs. While the socio economic household survey results were presented during the South Negros Core Group Meeting last February 15-16, 2016, in Dumaguete City which was also the basis in updating local Coastal Resource Management Plans and Comprehensive Land use Plans in some LGUs.
- In partnership with PEMO and the Philippine Reef and Rainforest Conservation Foundation (PRRCFI), the EAFM Compliance Promotion and Enforcement Training was facilitated last March 8-10, 2016 at Danjungan Island in Cauayan, Negros Occidental. This was designed for Fishery Enforcement Team Leaders/Coordinators and Police Environment Desk Officers of SNCDMC Member LGUs, TFL and BFAR Quick Response team members. ECOFISH also invited prosecutors to update them of the amended Fisheries Code, RA 10654. The main objective of this training was to build capacity of enforcement agency personnel, local enforcers and prosecutors in the state of our coastal ecosystem, improvement of their fisheries and maritime skills and ultimately come up with a joint enforcement plan to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing (IUUF).

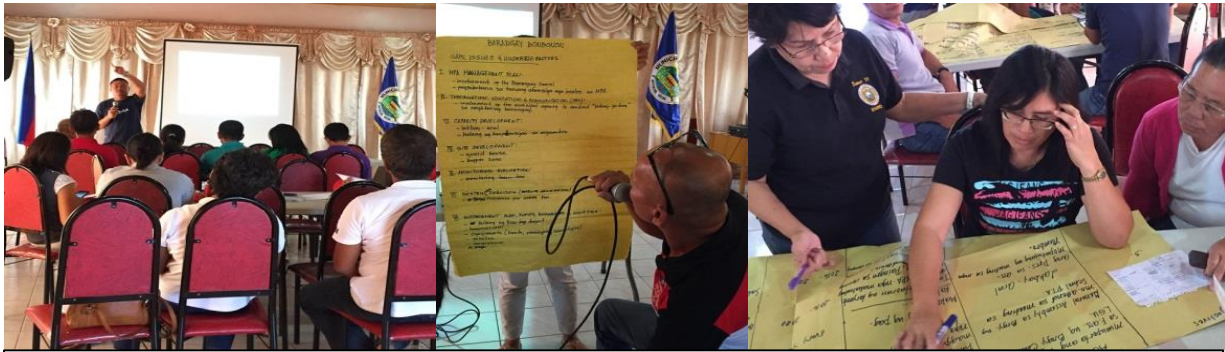
- In partnership with ENRD and LGU of Siaton, ECOFISH facilitated the MPA Management Planning workshop for the three MPAs in Siaton- Andulay, Bonbonon and Salag MPAs from November 17-18, 2015. This was attended by fisherfolk association presidents, concerned Barangay Chairpersons, City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO), and other partners. The team presented the MEAT results and underwater survey results in 2013 and 2015, provided a review of the nine critical management aspects in establishing and maintaining an effective MPA and review of the previous MPA Management Plan and identification of gaps, hindering and facilitating factors which were considered in coming up with the Vision, Mission, Goals and strategic activities in each MPA.



Various activities performed during the Compliance Promotion and Enforcement Training for the partners and stakeholders in South Negros MKBA. The training included pre-boarding and boarding procedures and practical boarding exercises.

- The site team facilitated assessment of various MPAs using MEAT from December 2015 to February 2016 and tested the Socio-economic Assessment Tool (SEAT) in the Sipalay City MPA.
- Aside from providing technical assistance in the biophysical selection of new MPAs in the South Negros MKBA, the PRRCFI also provide capacity building activities for concerned LGU staff and community members who are part of the MPA management bodies. A series of trainings were conducted to develop the proper management for the newly established MPAs, as well as their eventual convergence into a network for Southern Negros. Last March 21-22, 2016 the first of the 3 series Training on Local Governance, MPAs, and MPA Management was conducted for proposed MPAs in Siaton.
- Still in support to establishment of new MPAs, ECOFISH, with the Municipal Agriculture Office of Sta. Catalina and Mr. Charles Taylor, Peace Corps Volunteer, joined the Council meeting of Brgy. Manalongon last February 3, 2016. The main agenda was the ordinance and budget for Manalongon MPA and the targeted activities for the year in support of the MPA

establishment.



Workshop activities during the conduct of MPA assessments using MEAT in various municipalities in the South Negros MKBA between December 2015 and February 2016..

- Aside from the six proposed MPAs assisted thru PRRCFI, ECOFISH provided support in the conduct of biophysical assessment for additional proposed MPAs in the municipalities of Siaton, Sta. Catalina, and Basay in March 2016.
- For Hinobaan, the project co-organized the MPA Management Plan Review and Planning last February 18-19, 2016. Through the Bottom-Up-Budgeting (BUB) program, the LGU has availed from the Regional Office of the Department of Tourism (DOT) a project grant entitled, “Enhancement of Eco-tourism Sites in Hinoba-an” amounting to P850,000.00. The said amount will be used for funding the activities identified in the MPA Management Plan, particularly on the procurement and installation of marker buoys and enhancement of information, education, and communication (IEC) campaigns, among others. This planning session also served as venue for the conduct of assessment on the performance of the MPA Managers using MEAT and ECOFISH introduced the Socio-economic Assessment Tool (SEAT) to the participants.
- In support of the establishment of MPAs and MPA network in Southern Negros, the ECOFISH Project in partnership with the Municipality of Siaton organized an EAFM Compliance Promotion and Enforcement Training for MPA Guards from Bonbonon, Siit-Andulay and Salag last March 15-17, 2016. This training was organized to further strengthen the capabilities of each MPA especially with regards to coastal law enforcement and protection of the MPAs. Recent results of monitoring and evaluation using the MPA MEAT last September 2015 showed low scores on enforcement, sustainable financing, and community participation and among others. This was further supported by the 2015 biophysical assessment results of poor to fair live coral cover and poor to moderate fish abundance inside the MPAs.
- As requested by LGU Bayawan, ECOFISH CRS for South Negros MKBA, Ms. Galeos, provided an Orientation on Protected Sharks and Rays Species in the Philippines for LGU personnel, commercial fish operators and workers, and fish vendors. The objective of this activity was to orient them on the different species of sharks and rays and familiarize them on the regulated and banned species.
- In order to strengthen constituency building, ECOFISH has continuously supported and mentored Municipal and City Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and Management Councils (FARMCs). Aside from the project’s participation and inputs during their regular meetings, the site team also supported some of their capacity development activities. Last December 2,

2015 ECOFISH facilitated the Values Formation Seminar for the MFARMC of Basay, Negros Oriental.

- The Supplemental Fisheries Inventory in the South Negros Island was conducted last February 2016 in order to complete the fishery profile (fishing gears) of all coastal and island barangays that comprise the focal area LGUs in the said MKBA. The fisheries inventory is a crucial source of information in estimating the annual fisheries landings in the respective focal areas and is subsequently, a fundamental input in the right-sizing of fishing effort scenario simulations and workshops.
- In partnership with ATFI, 14 assisted POs in Negros Oriental and Occidental were assisted in terms of completing the legal requirements in relation to the Development of Social Enterprises for fishing communities in the Southern Negros MKBA (SEMFISH). Their registration varied from LGU accreditation, registration at the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).



ECOFISH team shared with partners its activities for Year 4, 2015 socio-economic survey results, revenue generation schemes, sustainable financing mechanisms, and results of value chain study on yellowfin tuna during the South Negros Core Group meeting in 15-16 February 2016.

- As one of the regular meetings organized yearly, the South Negros Core Group Meeting was conducted last in February 2016 in Dumaguete City to bring together all key players of South Negros MKBA to evaluate the past year and strategize activities for the next 18 months. The meeting also served as an opportunity for ECOFISH to present highlights of Year 1-3 and its roll-out activities for Year 4, allow each LGU to assess EAFM implementation (update EAFM benchmarks, provide an overview on the 2015 socio-economic survey results, revisit revenue generation schemes and sustainable financing mechanisms, present the results and recommendations of the value chain study on yellow fin tuna, and assess the Integrated Fisheries Management Plan of South Negros MKBA, and identify factors that have affected its implementation.
- With the project goal to improve the management and conservation of marine and coastal areas the team have been exploring other mechanisms so that people continue to benefit from their ecosystem services sustainably. Along with fisheries, ecotourism has been identified as one of the major uses of marine biodiversity in many of the project sites. In partnership with the Municipality of Siaton, Municipality of Hinobaan, and the US Peace Corps, the team has successfully conducted a willingness to pay (WTP) survey of tourists visiting Siaton and Hinobaan Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), other snorkeling and dive sites from April to July

last year. This allowed the LGUs to determine the values and benefits of the marine resources for recreation purposes and subsequently come up with a potential user fee scheme where the LGU and MPA Management Bodies can largely benefit from. The WTP survey results were presented last February 17 and 18, 2016, in Hinobaan and Siaton, respectively, attended by concerned BFAR, ENRD, LGU representatives, MPA representatives, and resort owners.



Participants from BFAR QRT and LGU partners during the Compliance Promotion and Enforcement Training in Sipalay City

- In line with our support to the BFAR Fishery Law Enforcement - Quick Response Team (FLEQRT) together with partners from the Philippine National Police (PNP) and PNP Maritime Group, ECOFISH facilitated another training on EAFM Compliance Promotion and Enforcement Training (Level 2-4) on June 6-8, 2016, in Bacolod City. This training has three sessions or levels, namely: (1) introduction to EAFM, (2) vessel familiarization, admeasurement, and registration and (3) report and case operation plan preparation.



ECOFISH facilitated another Compliance Promotion and Enforcement Training (Level 2-4) for the BFAR QRT and other enforcement partners last June 6-8, 2016 in Bacolod City.

- A two day workshop on MPA Network Design was facilitated on July 7-8, 2016, in Dumaguete City to develop an understanding on the principles of MPA network design and planning and be able to apply ecological, social, and institutional design principles/considerations in MPA network design. At the end of the workshop, the MPA Managers and the LGU technical staff with the help of the Provincial and National concerned agencies developed their respective action plans to strengthen the MPA network for the Southern Negros Island MKBA.
- Establishment and strengthening of MPAs and MPA networks is one of the major strategies of the ECOFISH Project to achieve its goal of increasing fish stocks and improving livelihood in the South Negros MKBA. The Project commissioned PRRCFI to conduct marine biophysical surveys in nine proposed MPAs in Sipalay City in Negros Occidental and the municipalities of Sta. Catalina and Siaton in Negros Oriental.



Focus group discussions with various stakeholders to determine the possible revenue generating schemes for the South Negros MKBA.

- Together with the Resource Economics Specialist, the site team conducted a series of focused group discussions with Municipal Agriculture Staff and selected FARMC officers and members from LGUs Sta. Catalina, Bayawan, Basay, Sipalay, and Cauayan to discuss possible revenue generation schemes. FGDs ordinances related to the establishment of a user fee system for MPAs and Fish Landing Centers and updating of auxiliary invoices were drafted afterwards.
- As a follow-up activity, the team facilitated a workshop in September 2016 to present data gathering for resource valuation as an input to the MSP and validation of the draft zoning maps. During the said workshop, the five municipalities in South Negros have consolidated and reconciled their proposed water use zones. Their planning officers have also appreciated the new planning tool for water use as the MSP now allows them to fulfill the national requirement to expand their existing Comprehensive Land Use Plans (CLUP) to include municipal waters. In addition, the estimated economic values of the water zones can now



Consultation with partners during the ground truthing and site validation to refine the zoning map for the drafting of the Marine Spatial Plan

provide the basis for potential fees, fines, and penalties, as well as guide future decisions on possible changes in their respective water uses.

- After three years of project assistance in strengthening the enforcement teams and approaches to the threats and problems identified, another Coastal Law Enforcement Baseline Assessment Workshop was facilitated last June 23-24, 2016, in Bayawan City to evaluate the status and progress of the local enforcement teams and successes in addressing the priority issues and concerns.



Participants of the Coastal Law Enforcement Baseline Assessment Workshop conducted by ECOFISH last June 23-24, 2016 in Bayawan City to evaluate the status and progress of enforcement initiatives.

Unplanned activities:

- Provided orientation to PFO Basilan Staff and Tabuan Lasa officials and personnel on Dauin MPA Networks
- The EAFM Compliance Promotion and Enforcement Training for Task Force Lawod last March 8-10, 2016 was not part of the workplan for this year but PEMO has streamlined the composition of the team, hence the need for a training.
- The team facilitated biophysical assessments in Brgy. Giliga-on, Siaton; Brgy. Caranoche, Sta. Catalina and Brgy. Bongalanan, Basay aside from the six proposed MPAs assisted thru PRRCFI. The surveys will be charged to regular funds but follow-up activities for Siaton and Sta. Catalina will be handled by PRRCFI as part of the SAF.



Field visit of Mr. Richard Bakewell of the US Embassy, Manila, including meetings with Dr. Angel Alcala of Silliman University and Mr. Eleuterio S. Calijan, Assistant Protected Area Superintendent of Apo Island Protected Landscape and Seascape

- The ECOFISH Project hosted the visit of Mr. Richard A. Bakewell, Economic Officer - Environment, Science & Technology and Health from the US Embassy Manila.
- In collaboration with the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), ECOFISH introduced the project and shared the principles of EAFM to newly-elected local chief executives in the Negros Island Region. This discussion was part of the two-day training of the DILG called Newly-Elected Officials (NEO) Program being implemented through the Local Government Academy (LGA). The training was held last September.

Activities Not Accomplished and Why:

- QRT Operations Planning for QRT 6 and 7 will not be implemented but 5 Levels of QRT related trainings will be conducted instead.

- The Orientation for PEDOs, Prosecutors and MFLETs on RA 10654 was scheduled in October 2015 but the vetting results were only

5.6. Surigao del Norte and Surigao del Sur MKBA

In Year 4, the ECOFISH Project in Surigao del Norte MKBA focused on the strengthening of the coastal law enforcement efforts to protect municipal waters and provide capacity and capability building activities to partner fishery law enforcement agencies, such as the BFAR QRT, PNP-Maritime Group, and fishery law enforcement units in the province and focal area municipalities. The Project also provided technical assistance to focal LGUs in strengthening the management of existing MPAs and identifying potential sites for new MPAs. The Project also rolled-out EAFM orientation and right-sizing of fishing efforts in focal municipalities and coastal communities. These provide clear resolution to partners and communities on the protection and management of the coastal and fisheries resources in Surigao del Norte.

The Project also pursued its collaboration and partnerships with Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) and BFAR in the implementation of social enterprise livelihood activities. It provided technical support in the social preparation and community organizing works, while PCA covered the skills and technology transfer and the provision of coco-coir production machines. On the other hand, BFAR also provided funds to recipient fisherfolks organization for the purchase of materials and stock crabs for the ecosystem-friendly mudcrab-fattening project.

The site team worked with partners for the improvement of the level of governance benchmarks of focal LGUs through marine spatial planning and MPA management planning. It continued to support inter-LGU and inter-agency cooperation in fisheries management by working more closely with the HIPADA, BFAR regional and provincial office and the Provincial Government.

The table below summarizes the status of (O-ongoing; C-completed) of interventions and activities in the Surigao del Norte – Surigao del Sur MKBA under the various deliverables.

Surigao del Norte – Surigao del Sur MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Support the conduct of a policy forum to tackle issues relevant to EAFM and with MKBA-wide scope, such as the intrusion of commercial fishing in municipal waters	O	O	C	
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Support the identification and drafting of at least one (1) case study reflecting the success and challenges of addressing issues related to EAFM, MPA management, Climate change adaptation, among others	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs				
Support in the conduct of MKBA-wide training on a national database system on EAFM	O	O	O	O

Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Facilitate the conduct of MSP orientation-training to focal LGUs and relevant partners (NGAs, NGOs, academe, other stakeholder groups)	C			
Provide support in the conduct of trainers' training on participatory coastal resources assessment and bio-physical monitoring for focal LGUs and partners	O	O	O	C
Provide support in the conduct information, education and communication, and conflict management training	O	O	O	O
Provide support in the conduct of a series of training for BFAR-QRT (Level 2, 3, 4, 5)	O	O	O	O
Provide support in the conduct of MPA guards training to include AMPA-supported MPA.	O	C		
Provide support in the conduct of training on the establishment of MPA Network	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Identify potential partners that will support enterprise development interventions in the MKBA	C			
Provide support in the conduct of social preparation/organizational strengthening activities for identified PO partners in Surigao del Norte mainland and Siargao Island	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Facilitate feed-backing of results of fisheries and bio-physical monitoring, governance benchmarking & socio-economic monitoring to partners	O	O	O	C
Support the presentation of PCRA results & bio-physical assessment for the proposed fish sanctuaries of LGU-Placer	O	C		
Support in the conduct of periodic monitoring of coastal law compliance and enforcement	O	O	O	C
Conduct governance benchmarking and enforcement assessment exercises	O	O	O	C
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Conduct FGDs and consultations with relevant stakeholders in support of Siganids management strategies in concerned LGUs	C			
Support activities leading to the adoption and implementation of Siganids management in concerned LGUs, such as facilitating the conduct of IEC and consultations with broader stakeholder groups and drafting of policy instruments	O	C		
Support activities to monitor the implementation of Siganids management in concerned LGUs	O	O	O	C
Support activities leading to the establishment of trophic interaction (EwE model) and simulations of fishing effort configuration in Surigao del Norte focal areas	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Facilitate the conduct of hydrodynamic study and larvae dispersal modeling	O	O	O	O
Conduct inter-LGU MPA Management Planning Workshop	O	O	O	O

Provide support to focal LGUs and other stakeholders in identifying and selecting potential sites for MPAs	O	C		
Provide assistance to the LGUs in strengthening of MPA management committees/bodies through training, review of plans and/or review of the ordinance	O	O	O	C
Provide technical assistance to the POs through the LGUs in the implementation of MPA or fish sanctuary management plans	O	O	O	C
Provide assistance in the conduct of training for authorized MPA guards in collaboration with the LGU and regular enforcement agencies.	O	C		
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Facilitate finalization of the draft Provincial CRM Framework Plan	O	O	O	O
Facilitate the preparation, documentation and execution of fisheries Management Plans to focal LGUs	O	O	O	O
Conduct consultations with HIPADA-LGUs on the drafting and formulation of coastal and fisheries resources management plans to include municipal water boundaries		O	C	
Provide support in the establishment or strengthening of Province-wide coastal law enforcement initiative	O	O	O	C
Provide support to activities leading to the development of a Marine Spatial Plan for the MKBA, such as series of workshops and consultations incorporating economic criteria in use prioritization, field validations, drafting of MSP document and related policy instruments	O	O	C	
Provide support in the creation and strengthening of municipal coastal law enforcement teams	O	O	O	C
Provide venue for regular meeting of partners and focal LGU stakeholders in the MKBA	O	O	O	C
Organize orientation workshop on right-sizing of fishing effort and subsequent consultations			C	
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Provide assistance to BFAR and focal LGUs in implementing the FishR and the BoatR	O	C		
Facilitate the review and updating of municipal fisheries registration and licensing system (for those LGUs with existing registration and licensing systems) to incorporate provisions that will complement the FishR and BoatR programs of BFAR	O	C		
Assist focal LGUs in the preparation / presentation of draft ordinance on municipal fishing vessel registration to FARMCS/SBs	O	O	O	C
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Assist key LGUs in setting up of a collection system for auxiliary invoices, and in the review of existing systems		C		
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				

Conduct social preparation and provide CO assistance to select POs in key LGUs in Siargao Island in collaboration with the PCA	O	O	O	C
Conduct social preparation for select POs in key/focal mainland LGUs	O	C		
Coordination with local officials, POs, local NGOs, and other stakeholders in preparation for the workshop and consultation on sustainable financing programs	O	C		
Support the initiation of an awards and recognition system for best managed marine protected areas	O	O	O	C
Deliverable 14: Advanced Trainings Advanced Trainings in Specialized Fisheries Management (SFM) Interventions for Inter-LGU Alliance				
Advanced trainings in fisheries, MPA assessment and socioeconomics				
Advanced trainings provided to key partners in fisheries related to SFM and intensified interventions			O	O
Advanced trainings in fishery law enforcement				
Fish examiners training in the MKBA			O	O
Fisheries summits				
Fisheries summit in the MKBA			O	O

Highlights of Key Site-Level Activities/Accomplishments:

- To strengthen the capacity and capability of the coastal law enforcers in Surigao del Norte, ECOFISH conducted BFAR Fishery Law Enforcement Quick Response Capacity and Team Building (Para-Legal Training) for BFAR-QRT personnel and partner law enforcement agencies, such as Philippine National Police/PNP-Maritime Group, PNP-Special Action Force, and the enforcement team of the focal LGUs. The enforcers were trained on how to handle cases from gathering of evidence, preservation of evidence and proper protocol on case filing. Also part of the training was the consultation dialogue between law enforcers and judicial authorities. All legal queries were discussed with highlights on RA 10654 the new Fisheries Code of Philippines and setting-up of environmental court in the Province/Region. These will raise the level of confidence



(Left) Coastal law enforcers from BFAR-FLEQRT, PNP/PNP-MG, SAF and local enforcers pose during the BFAR Fishery Law Enforcement Quick Response Capacity and Team Building (Para-Legal Training) together with resource persons and BFAR Regional Director Nerio G. Casil; (Right) Consultation-Dialogue with Judge Calderon and Prosecutor Miel together with the coastal law enforcers from BFAR and partner agencies.

among enforcers in handling of the paralegal aspect of their duties and responsibilities and continuous coordination and linkage between and among law enforcement agencies.

- Attended and participated in the Hinatuan Passage Development Alliance (HIPADA) Council Meeting held in San Francisco, Surigao del Norte. The ECOFISH Project presented highlights and accomplishments to the Council composed of Mayors and the composite technical advisory group. Presented the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between ECOFISH Project and HIPADA for collaboration of efforts in the implementation of the Project to its member municipalities.
- Participated in the BFAR Fisheries Regulatory Enforcement and Management Division Monthly Meeting held in Butuan City. The Project presented its accomplishment and milestones on coastal law enforcement for Surigao del Norte. Updated schedule of activities and Project's commitment in providing capacity and capability building to BFAR FLeQRT personnel.



Officers of selected POs in mainland and Siargao Island during the Training on the Formulation of Vision, Mission, Goals and Leadership and Gender Sensitivity Training

- In line with the on-going implementation of social enterprise, ECOFISH facilitated a Financial Management Training to selected POs on February 16-17 in Gigaquit and on February 19-20 in Siargao Island. Participants were trained on simple bookkeeping, entry of financial transactions, and formulation of cash flows and inventory of assets using their existing incomes from their business and livelihoods. The trained POs were beneficiaries of the social enterprise on mudcrab fattening and coco-coir production assisted by the Project and in collaboration with BFAR and Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA).
- For the enterprise development interventions in Surigao del Norte, the ECOFISH Project together with BFAR and in collaboration with the Provincial Agriculture Office facilitated the Training on Ecosystem-Friendly on Mudcrab Production for Surigao del Norte. The activity was participated by selected POs and LGU personnel from the municipalities of Del Carmen, Dapa, Sta. Monica, San Isidro and Pilar in Siargao Island and mainland municipalities of Tagana-an, Bacuag and Gigaquit. Highlights of the training was the inputs from the resource person on the alternative feeding scheme which use of certain vegetables like squash and shellfish endemic in the area, as alternative food for mud crabs,

instead of trash fish. The recipient POs also formulated their one (1) year work and financial plan identifying potential agencies like BFAR, BUB, and DSWD-Sustainable Livelihood Program as of source of funds for the mud crab project. ECOFISH Surigao del Norte, together with the Community Partnership Specialist conducted a series of social preparation activities in Surigao Norte. Among of these interventions were the Training on the Formulation of Vision, Mission, Goals and Organizational Plan, Leadership and Gender Sensitivity Training. These are continuing support to strengthen the capacity and capability of selected POs in Siargao Island and mainland in the implementation of their enterprise development livelihood projects. The POs were trained on how to develop their individual VMG that will guide their organizations. Officers were also trained on how to handle and manage their organizations and roles of women in the organizations and communities.



BFAR PFO Emillo Gulle welcome the participants for the Orientation-Workshop on Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and Identification of Fisheries and Other Uses of the Municipal Waters of Focal LGUs in Surigao del Norte. Participants formulated their municipal water zoning maps in one of the workshops.

- Facilitated Orientation-Workshop on Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and Identification of Fisheries and Other Uses of the Municipal Waters of Focal LGUs in Surigao del Norte. The activity was participated by around more or less 50 participants composed of Municipal Agriculturist, AT-Fisheries, Municipal Planning Officers, Municipal Engineers, SB on Agriculture and Fisheries, SB on Environment, C/MFARMCs from the focal LGUs of Surigao City, Tagana-an, Placer, Bacuag, Gigaquit and Claver, and representative from partner agencies from Hinatuan Passage Development Alliance (HIPADA), BFAR/PFO, PAO, DILG, PPA, and DENR. Among the highlights were the formulation of draft municipal water zoning maps that will soon be validated and also identified further steps and activities to institute and finalize the marine spatial plan for the focal LGUs of Surigao del Norte MKBA.
- Participated in the Consultative Meeting with Commercial/Municipal Fishing Operators

using Modified Danish Seine or locally known as “liba-liba” with LGU-Placer Officials, MAO, Philippine Coast Guard, BFAR and PNP local station. Around twenty fishing operators attended the meeting held in the Training Center, Placer, Surigao del Norte. The LGU-Placer officials headed by Mayor Felimon Napuli, the Chief of Police, and BFAR FLeQRT personnel emphasized that the use of Danish seine is totally banned in the Philippine waters and that includes the municipal and national waters based on BFAR’s Fisheries Administrative Order No. 246 series of 2013 and even in RA 8550. As an agreement, the LGU-Placer and BFAR thru the Bottom-up-Budgeting (BuB) Program will provide alternative livelihood support and provision of legal fishing gears/nets to affected operators and workers.

- Facilitated Organizational Planning and Leadership Training for selected POs in Siargao Island of Surigao del Norte. The activity was participated by around forty (40) participants from selected POs of Tigasao Fisherfolks Association, San Isidro Women’s Organization, Purok 5 Inland Fishery Association, Alegria Fisherfolks Association, Magsaysay Farmers and Fisherfolks Association, KAMAMANA, DELCASAMAMA, Sta. Felomina Farmers and Fisherfolks Association, and Nagkahiusang Mag-uuma og Mananagat sa Union (NAMAUN). One of the highlights of the activity was the formulation of one year organizational plan that includes activities that capacitates their organization and identified livelihood supports.



Siargao Island and Mainland POs formulate and present their financial management plan outputs during the Financial Management Training to selected POs of Surigao del Norte. The ECOFISH Project provided the social preparation activities as part of the social enterprise development interventions in Surigao Norte.

- Meeting with Provincial Agriculture Office (PAO) and Provincial Environment and Management Office (PEMO) for the institutionalization of the Provincial Coastal Law Enforcement Task Force and the finalization of the Provincial CRM Framework Plan. Also discussed were the priority activities and interventions of ECOFISH Project for Year 4 in Surigao del Norte.
- In collaboration with HIPADA, PNP-MG, PAO, and BFAR, conducted MPA Guards Training on March 1-3, 2016, at Women’s Training Center, Gigaquit, Surigao del Norte. Around 50 participants composed of MPA Guards from focal site LGUs and including LGU San Francisco, AT-Fisheries, BFAR, and PNP-MG personnel attended the training. Participants were trained and assessed on the status of their MPAs in terms of promotion compliance and enforcement, basic tenets on guarding an MPA, use of maps, GPS and

nautical charts, and development of individual MPA enforcement plans.



(Left) Site Coordinator for Surigao Norte MKBA facilitate the discussion on the issues encountered by MPA guards on the enforcement. (Right) SPO1 Rochelle Bakingito of PNP-Maritime Group present strategies and approaches on how to be effective in guarding marine protected areas

- In collaboration with LGU-Del Carmen, SIKAT Foundation, PNP Provincial Police Office, Philippine Coast Guard, PNP-Maritime Group, local media and BFAR facilitated



Mr. Manuel Narvadez, the Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist of ECOFISH Project and BFAR FLeQRT personnel present some highlights of FAO 246 and RA 10654 in relation to the banning on the operation of Danish seine or locally known as “liba-liba” in the Philippine waters.

Stakeholders Round-Table Discussion on Illegal Fishing Issues in Surigao del Norte on March 4, 2016 held at Hotel Tavern, Surigao City. The Project spearheaded the discussion on illegal fishing issues, particularly the rampant intrusion of commercial fishing “liba-liba” into the municipal waters of Del Carmen. LGU-Del Carmen, through SIKAT, presented some scenarios issues encountered by their Bantay Dagat; among which is the non-compliance/assistance of territorial police in enforcement, commercial fishers were heavily armed, and issues on sabotaging operations by BFAR FLe QRT personnel. Each partner agencies provided their comments and resolutions to the raised issues. Among the agreed resolutions were the formations of an inter-agency coastal law enforcement task force through the province. ECOFISH will provide assistance in the formation of the task force, including the drafting of an Executive Order and MOA. They also agreed on a joint inter-agency commercial fishing vessel inspection in ports of Placer and Socorro.

- Conducted EAFM Compliance Promotion and Enforcement Training for BFAR Fishery Law Enforcement Quick Response Team and partner enforcement agencies (Maritime Law Enforcement Training) on March 7-9, 2016, at Hotel Tavern, Surigao City. The training is Level 3 capacity and it is a capability building provided by the Project to BFAR Fishery Law Enforcement Quick Response Team and partner agencies. Participants were

trained and equipped on maritime law enforcement, in particular: navigation and seamanship, use of nautical chart and GPS in coastal law enforcement activities, procedures and techniques in vessel search and ship boarding, basic laws on gathering and preserving of evidence, and chain of custody on case filing. The training provided venue to build rapport among BFAR FLeQRT and partner enforcement agencies.



(Left) Atty. Gerry Maglinte presents the legal procedures on conducting search, boarding, seizure and chain of custody on filing of cases for fishery law violations. (Right) PSUPT Oliver Tanseco of PNP-HPG assisted participants composed of PNP, PNP-MG PCG, PN, BFAR FLeQRT and LGU representatives on how to use nautical charts and plotting GPS coordinates.

- ECOFISH facilitated the Orientation Workshop on Establishment of MPA Network and SEAT and presented Socio-Economic Assessment Result for 2015. Results will be used by the LGUs for planning on further management interventions. Some 40 participants from HIPADA member municipalities participated in the workshop. The Project also introduced the MPA Awards to provide recognition to the best-managed MPAs in HIPADA member LGUs. Tapped the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) of HIPADA to formulate guidelines and policies, conduct site validation, and assess the status of each MPA using the MEAT and SEAT.

- Meeting with Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) for the social enterprise on coco-coir production for selected LGUs in Siargao Island and Mainland of Surigao del Norte. It was participated by the provincial manager of PCA



ECOFISH Project presented the comparative socioeconomic assessment monitoring results and introduced the proposed award system to recognize the best MPA in Surigao del Norte.

and its provincial focal person and representative from Regional Office. ECOFISH provided updates to PCA on the status of social preparation activities, including the number of identified POs to undertake the said enterprise. Discussions were focused on

the signed Memorandum of Understanding between PCA and ECOFISH.– It was agreed that PCA will provide three weaving machines and 30 twining machines for the three POs. It was also agreed that by 2017, they will allocate funds for the purchase of machines to accommodate additional POs. ECOFISH will continue to provide social preparation activities as counterpart. Meanwhile, PCA and ECOFISH will also look for other organizations like Socorro Empowered Multi-Purpose Cooperative (SOEMCO) as consolidator for the said enterprise.

- Attended DENR PAMB Executive Committee Meeting on March 30, 2016, at Dapa, Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte. Presented ECOFISH Project updates and collaborations on coastal law enforcement with B+WISER Project especially on how to complement the LAWIN and DALOY application on reporting environmental and fishery laws violations.
- The Project together with BFAR-PFO of Surigao del Norte presented the value chain analysis result for mud crab in the area. The study covers selected LGUs in mainland Surigao del Norte and Siargao Island that traces the chain of custody of mud crab from farm gate to market and consumers. LGU officials and key personnel and other stakeholders participated in the activity.
- In collaboration with BFAR and PCA, the Project facilitated consultation meeting with POs in Siargao Island, the LGUs of Pilar, San Isidro, Sta. Monica, and Del Carmen, regarding mud crab fattening and coco-coir production. The POs were updated on the latest arrangements, agreements with the partner agencies, and commitments of LGUs.



Environmental science students and personnel of Surigao State College of Technology and partner agencies from DENR and PNP-Maritime Group during the symposium for the Month of the Ocean celebration.

- In celebration for the Month of the Ocean, ECOFISH, in partnership with the DENR and Surigao State College of Technology, conducted a symposium for environmental science students. Around 60 students and partners participated in the activity. The Project presented some its interventions on ecosystems approach to fisheries management (EAFM).

- The USAID-ECOFISH Project and BFAR Caraga Region co-facilitated the Inter-Agency



Regional Fisherfolks Director Renito Mendana give inspirational message to partner agencies like PNP-Maritime Group, Philippine Coastguard, Provincial Agriculture Office, City ENRO and stakeholders to share and do their individual part on the protection, conservation and management of the coastal and fisheries resources during the Inter-Agency Coastal and Underwater Clean-up in observance to the Month of the Ocean and Farmers and Fisherfolks Month held at Boulevard, Surigao City.

Underwater Coastal Clean-up along the boulevard of Surigao City on May 9, 2016. Partner agencies from PNP-Maritime Group, Philippine Coastguard, DENR, City ENRO, and Surigao Dive Club participated in the activity. The team gathered and collected around 15 sacks of garbage composed of plastics, cellophane, and empty bottles.

- ECOFISH facilitated a three-day Stakeholder Engagement and Strategic Communications Training to BFAR Fishery Law Enforcement Quick Response Team and partner agencies on May 24-26, 2016. Key personnel from the PNP-Provincial Police Office, PNP-Maritime Group, PNP-Special Action Force, Philippine Army, Philippine Coastguard, Philippine Navy, local media, PAO, PEMO, DILG, and representatives from MCLET participated in the training. The activity focuses on distinguishing ways to maximize promoting compliance and enforcement of maritime laws using the media, assess effective stakeholder engagement processes, identify stakeholder engagement activities through collaboration, and develop a strategic communication plan.
- Facilitated Business Planning Workshop Phase 1 and 2 for selected POs of Surigao del Norte. This is part of the social preparation activities provided by the Project to fisherfolk organizations involved in the social enterprise projects. Thirteen organizations from Siargao Island and the mainland participated in the workshop. The Project tapped resource persons from Saint Paul University – Business School to discuss the formulation, review, and packaging of business plans in preparation for social activities.
- Part of the technical assistance provided by ECOFISH to our partner LGUs of Hinatuan Passage Development Alliance (HIPADA), ECOFISH Project facilitated a two-day Writeshop on Marine Spatial Plan and Zoning Ordinance on June 9-10, 2016. Key LGU personnel composed of SB Chairman on Agriculture and Fisheries, Municipal Agriculturist, AT-Fisheries, Municipal Planning Officer, Municipal Tourism Officer, MFARMC, and partners from provincial and national government agencies participated in the workshop. The outputs from the previous MSP workshop were reviewed including the harmonization of municipal zoning maps to resolve conflicts identified in the use zones. A technical working group was formed at the end of the workshop and tasked to consolidate the LGU outputs and to draft the inter-LGU Marine Spatial Plan for the Surigao del Norte MKBA focal area.

- Selected fisherfolks organizations from Siargao Island participated in a technical training on coco-coir production jointly organized by the ECOFISH Project and the PCA on June 1 to 2, 2016 in Siargao Island. Aside from training the participants on the necessary skills to weave the mats, PCA



turned over one decortivating machine, 30 twining machines, and 3 weaving machines to be shared among three groups of fisherfolk coming from the different municipalities in Siargao.

- The activity aims to supplement livelihoods of marginal fisherfolks by adding value to an abundant resource on the island, as well as reduce the agricultural waste generated by copra production in Siargao.
- Technical staff from focal local government units of HIPADA and partner agencies from BFAR, DENR, PEMO and PAO participated in the five-day Training of Trainers on Habitat Monitoring and MPA Assessment sponsored by the Project.



Participants were trained on field gathering, data analysis, results interpretation, and presentation. The activity is a strategy adopted by the Project to download technical expertise of the Project to the newly-created HIPADA MPA monitoring team as a means of sustaining



Key LGU personnel and fisherfolks representative draws and map-out the status of their municipal coastal and fisheries resources during the three-day EAFM Orientation and Right Sizing of Fishing Effort

- interventions beyond project life.
- The Project facilitated a three-day Orientation on EAFM and Right-Sizing of Fishing Effort to member LGUs of HIPADA on July 26-28. Key technical personnel and legislators of focal LGUs and partner agencies attended the orientation. The objective of the activity was to orient key partners on the principles and concepts of EAFM as applied to the local fisheries management context and on the rationale for the right-sizing of fishing effort. The activity is also in preparation for the fishing effort re-allocation of different fishing gear types and operations used by the fishers in the Hinatuan Passage.
- Through collaboration and partnership with HIPADA, the Project co-facilitated a meeting with the Technical Advisory Group to discuss the preparations for the recognition of best-managed marine protected areas in all member LGUs of the alliance. The MPA award was adopted by the HIPADA Council as one of its programs for the protection and management of coastal and fisheries resources in



Mr. Joeffrey Maglinte the Site Coordinator of ECOFISH Project presents to the community the results of the baseline assessment for the proposed marine protected area of Barangay Lakandula, Municipality of Placer

the Hinatuan Passage.

- In support of the social enterprise, the Project spearheaded a Training-Workshop on Product Development and Marketing on August 11 to 12 in Surigao de Norte. Thirteen fisherfolks organization from the mainland and Siargao Island, representatives of partner agencies attended. Participants were trained on how to enhance, develop, and formulate strategies in marketing products. Outputs and learning will be used by the beneficiary POs in the implementation of social enterprise on ecosystem-friendly mudcrab fattening and coco-coir production projects supported through partnerships from BFAR and Philippine Coconut Authority.
- Provided technical assistance in the presentation of baseline assessment for the three proposed MPAs to the LGUs and coastal communities of Placer and Taganaan. The Project presented the results together with BFAR, PAO, and HIPADA. The results will be used as baseline information that will serve as reference point for the communities and LGUs for the before and after interventions in the proposed MPAs. The establishment of MPAs is a very effective tool for protecting and managing coastal and marine habitats and it also contribute to Projects' objective of 10% increase in fish biomass.
- The comparative results for MPAs and fisheries catch monitoring were presented by ECOFISH on August 22 to 23 to the LGUs of HIPADA and partner agencies like DENR, BFAR, DILG, PNP-Maritime Group, PEMO, and PAO. The monitoring of MPA and fish catch was conducted by the Project in 2013 and 2015 to assess the impacts of its interventions to implement EAFM and contribute to the objective of 10% increase in fish biomass. Also presented the EAFM governance benchmarking results, which determines the level of management of the LGUs in the protection and conservation of their coastal and fisheries resources. One of the highlights and outputs of the activity was the formulation of priority activities in the municipal level and activities that needs inter-LGU cooperation. All the results were very essential for LGUs in their planning process especially on policy formulation and identification of sustainable mechanisms.
- Participated in the HIPADA Council Meeting on 30 August 2016 held at Mayors Conference Room, City Hall, Surigao City. Local chief executives and the technical advisory group (TAG) of eight member LGUs of HIPADA attended. Among the highlights was the election of new set of HIPADA Council officers, presentation of priority programs, including the increase of LGUs' contributions –



Household survey enumerator doing a mock-interview using the MPA socio-economic assessment tool (SEAT)

municipality from Php50,000 to Php75,000; Surigao City from Php100,000 to Php150,000; Provincial Government from Php100,000 to Php200,000. The increase was unanimously approved by the Council to expand and cater other development programs particularly the protection and management of coastal and fisheries resources within the Hinatuan Passage.

- As part of the preparations for the MPA Awards, ECOFISH in partnership with HIPADA facilitated MPA Tools and Incentives Training on August 31 to September 1 at Hotel Tavern, Surigao City. Twenty household survey enumerators and key personnel from LGUs and partner agencies participated in the training. Fourteen MPAs located in eight municipalities have qualified to participate in the MPA Awards. The recognition of best-managed MPAs was adopted as regular program of HIPADA. The participants were familiarized on the different tools in assessing the effectiveness of management of MPAs. They learned to assess the governance and socio-economic impact of the MPAs on communities using the MPA management effectiveness assessment tool (MEAT) and socio-economic assessment tool (SEAT). The tools will be used as criteria by the evaluators and HIPADA in providing recognition and incentives to the local initiatives in coastal resource management.
- Facilitated Coastal Law Enforcement Compliance Assessment Workshop to partner local government units and enforcement agencies on September 1 -2 at Hotel Tavern, Surigao City. Attended by municipal coastal law enforcement teams (MCLET), legislators, PNP-Provincial Police Office, PNP-Maritime Group, Philippine Coast Guard, DENR, DILG,



(Left) Technical staffs of Surigao City and representatives from PNP-Maritime Group discuss on the current illegal fishing issues and threats that were still rampant in the City (Right) SPO2 Robert Tila of PNP-Bacuag presents the current skills and enforcement assets of the Municipal Coastal Law

HIPADA, PAO, PEMO, and BFAR. The participants assessed current threats and identified priority issues in fishery law enforcement based on the results of monitoring undertaken by ECOFISH as part of technical assistance to enhance the capacity of coastal law enforcers. Each LGUs and partner enforcement agencies also formulated strategic indicative plans in implementing coastal law enforcement activities. A final monitoring event will be done next year.

- In rolling-out the implementation of ecosystem-approach to fisheries management (EAFM), ECOFISH facilitated the Orientation on EAFM for selected people's organization in Surigao del Norte on September 20-21 at Gateway Hotel, Surigao City. The fisherfolks organization that participated in the activity were beneficiaries of the social enterprise projects assisted

through partnerships with PCA and BFAR. The objectives of the activity was to orient participants on EAFM approach in addressing threats and issues in the coastal and marine ecosystems and recognize how ecosystems benefit human societies and how human societies in turn impact the ecosystems.

- Provided technical assistance to the LGU of Taganaan on the conduct of public consultation for the establishment of Taganaan Marine Sanctuary-Fabio on September 21. The proposed MPA has an estimated area of 230 hectares covering mangroves, seagrass, and coral reef ecosystems. The Project provided technical assistance to LGU-Taganaan and Barangay Fabio in the site identification and biophysical monitoring. The results were presented during the public consultation, which was attended by officials of the local government, citizens of different coastal communities, stakeholders, and representatives from BFAR and Provincial Agriculture Office (PAO). Moreover, a draft municipal ordinance for the establishment of the MPA was also presented and discussed. The proposed ordinance will be soon be up for approval by the SB members on their regular session.

Issues and Concerns:

- For Surigao del Norte, the intrusion of commercial fishing vessels in municipal waters particularly the “liba-liba” remains the main enforcement issue in the site. Although the issues were raised with the Provincial level, still, strong political support from the local chief executives and the Provincial Government are needed. Unfortunately, initiatives and undertakings were hampered due to upcoming election. The Project is pushing and providing assistance to the Province in the creation of a task force.
- For the social enterprise development on mud crab fattening, BFAR’s allocation is very limited since it was not included in their regular program. Based on the agreements, BFAR will provide funds to be deposited to bank accounts of the POs for the procurement/purchase of materials needed for the crab cages including the stock crabs for fattening. Also, for the coco-coir production, PCA can only provide 1 decorticating machine, 3 weaving machines and 30 twining machines for three POs in Siargao Island. Only Alegria Farmers and Fisherfolks Association (TIFFA) produced geo-net products since they were the one that was provided with decorticating machine. Another issue encountered was the lack of potential markets within the island. PCA committed to assist the POs in marketing the their products.
- Change of command and re-assignment of personnel from enforcement agencies like PNP, PNP-Maritime Group, and BFAR-Fishery Law Enforcement Quick Response Team hampers the smooth coordination and collaboration on coastal law enforcement activities. The Project needs to orient newly assigned/designated personnel on the existing activities undertaken by the Project and partner enforcement agencies.

5.7. Sulu Archipelago MKBA

In Year 4, the Project focused on supporting initiatives that will promote voluntary compliance with fishery laws, rules, and regulations in the focal areas, as well as in supporting the BFAR-ARMM, and the local government in their enforcement efforts by means of training and mentoring. Owing to access and security issues in areas such as Sapa-Sapa, South Ubian, and

Tandubas, the Project worked primarily with the Municipal Fishery Coordinators, police, and security forces during field work.

Tawi-Tawi team focused on capacity building of partners through the conduct of series of training on Coastal Law Enforcement Training to BFAR/ARMM Quick Response Team. The result of this training is the establishment of collaboration through the signing of Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between BFAR/ARMM and the PNPMG witnessed by the project.

The team also started working with Tawi-Tawi Family Life Foundation (TFLF) in adding value to anchovies harvested by the community in Barangay Ipil in the municipality of Bongao. This is supported through the Special Activity Fund. Last month, EAFM training for POs identified by the TFLF was conducted. Values Formation training was also conducted in Bongao. The Project also rolled-out EAFM orientation and right sizing of fishing efforts in six focal municipalities and to other government partners. Part of that training is the MOA between the six LGU for fisheries management, the said MOA is now being circulated to respective LGUs for their comments.

The table below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of interventions and activities in Sulu Archipelago MKBA under the various deliverables.

Sulu Archipelago MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Support the conduct of symposiums, forums and round table discussions about pressing and emerging issues on EAFM, MPA and Climate Change in coordination with academe and PLGU	O	O	O	O
Support the formulation of relevant ordinances and other legal instruments	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Support the development of at least one case study highlighting peculiarity of the place with respect to implementing fisheries management/EAFM	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs				
Support activities relative to training technical staff on the use of the data base	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Initiate and support revival of discussions about the FATWA through roundtable discussions and forums	O	O	C	
Collaborate with the Tawi-Tawi Islamic Development Center and other relevant groups and individuals formulating strategies to popularize the FATWA in the focal areas	O	O	O	C
Support the development of information, education and communication products on the FATWA and its relation to EAFM.	O	O	O	C
Support the training of BFAR-ARMM Quick Response Team as well as the BFAR Fishery Law Enforcement Team assigned in Tawi	O	O	C	

Support the conduct of a Bar, Badge, Bench Conference in Bongao to discuss legal, paralegal and metalegal issues involved in fishery enforcement	O	O	O	O
Support the conduct of series of coastal law enforcement trainings for regular and deputized enforcers in the focal areas	O	O	O	O
Support the establishment and mobilization of an inter-agency, inter-local and multi-sectoral enforcement group through training and coaching	O	O	O	O
Facilitate the conduct of MSP orientation-training to focal LGUs and relevant partners (NGAs, NGOs, academe, other stakeholder groups)		O	O	O
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Support activities and initiatives in the scoping for community partnerships in focal areas	O	O	O	O
Explore other means of public-private sector partnership in the focal area to support EAFM work	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Support the training of community partners and trainers in preparation for the conduct of PCRA in the new focal sites	O	O	O	O
Undertake preparatory work for the PCRA team to consider technical and administrative preparations	O	O	O	O
Support the conduct of PCRA in South Ubian, Tandubas, Sapa-Sapa	O	O	O	O
Support the conduct of a regular monitoring of enforcement conditions based on baselines established during FISH Project	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Support activities leading to the refinement of trophic interaction (EwE model) and simulations of fishing effort configuration in Tawi-tawi Bay focal area	O	O	O	O
Support activities such as forum and round table discussions to identify possible species or gears that require regulation and/or management focus	O	O	O	O
Provide technical assistance in the collection of information to support gear or species specific regulations and/or management		O	O	O
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Provide support that will strengthen cohesion of Tawi-Tawi Bay Fish Sanctuary Alliance including its promotion	O	O	O	O
Support activities in MPA sites-selection to ensure inclusion of mangrove habitats and keystone species, as well as sites with high potential to support the MPA network on the whole	O	O	O	O
Support the popularization of MPAs or their network with the aim of generating constituency within and outside the focal areas		O	O	O
Support the conduct of a series of MPA guards training including a trainers' training	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				

Provide support to activities that lead to the development of a Marine Spatial Plan for the MKBA, including a series of workshops and consultations incorporating economic criteria in use prioritization, field validations, municipal water boundary delineation, drafting of MSP document and related policy instruments	O	O	O	O
Support the conduct of Inter-LGU Fisheries Management Planning involving focal areas	O	O	O	O
Facilitate provision of technical support for both regular and deputized enforcers of LGUs (former FISH focal LGUs and new focal LGUs)	O	O	O	O
Provide support in the establishment and strengthening of a Province-wide, inter-LGU and inter-agency coastal and fishery law enforcement team	O	O	O	O
Conduct regular meetings of key partners and stakeholders from the BFAR, PNP and LGUs to strengthen inter-agency collaboration	O	O	O	O
Organize orientation workshop on right-sizing of fishing effort focal LGU partners				O
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Provide support to the BFAR-ARMM/PFO in the implementation of the FishR and BoatR	O	O	C	
Support the conduct of public fora and meetings to assess and monitor the implementation of the FishR and BoatR	O	O	C	
Provide support in the popularization and dissemination of registration and licensing system	O	O	O	C
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Support the conduct of RTD to explore market-based financing instruments with government and business stakeholders in Tawi	O	O	O	O
Identify other projects, donors or initiatives in the Province or outside of the Province with potentials to generate incomes from sustainable fisheries practice	O	O	O	O
Support activities, initiatives or programs of government, non-government or multilateral organizations that promote income generation within focal area communities	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Facilitate in the identification of potential partner/s for enterprise development	O	O	O	C
Support activities related to promoting the results of the value chain and ensuing policies	O	O	C	
Deliverable 14: Advanced Trainings Advanced Trainings in Specialized Fisheries Management (SFM) Interventions for Inter-LGU Alliance				
Advanced trainings in fisheries, MPA assessment and socioeconomics				
Advanced trainings provided to key partners in fisheries related to SFM and intensified interventions			O	O
Advanced trainings in fishery law enforcement				
Fish examiners training in the MKBA			O	O

Fisheries summits

Fisheries summit in the MKBA

O O

Highlights of Key Site-Level Activities/Accomplishments

- ECOFISH and BFAR/ARMM conducted a Quick Response Team Training to provide orientation on basic maritime law enforcement, particularly on navigation and seamanship, chart work, GPS proficiency, vessel search, ship board arrest techniques and basic laws, including an orientation on RA 10654.
- Conducted perception survey, information education campaign in the municipality of South Ubian, Sapa-Sapa and Tandubas for the establishment of marine protected areas. As observed, fish catches are still in good but dynamite and compressor fishing particularly are beginning to be rampant. People are open for the MPA establishment but they expect support in drafting the legal instrument, enforcement, and infrastructure like guardhouse and pumpboat.
- Conducted Maritime Law Enforcement Training for BFAR FLEQRT-ARMM. The purpose of the training was to improve BFAR/ARMM (QRT) and PNPMG (RMU and MSOU) collaboration in enforcing fishery laws in ARMM waters. Training activities included elements of search, arrest and seizure, investigation, custody of evidence, affidavit making, operations planning and orientation on the revised Fisheries Code R.A. 10654



Participants and instructors during the first leg of the Maritime Law Enforcement Training for BFAR Quick Response Team. The training was designed to improve collaboration between enforcement agencies (including PNPMG and MSOU) and basics of fishery law enforcement.

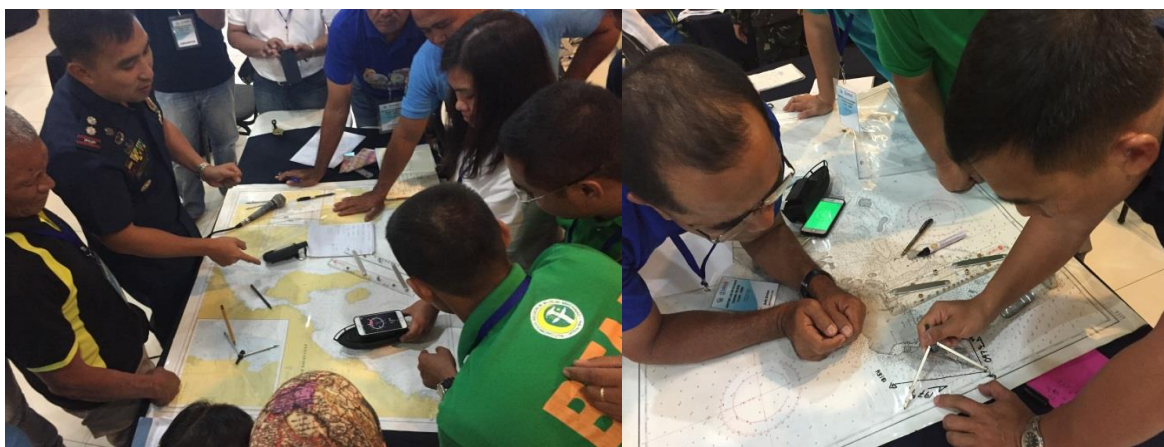
- Supported the enhanced version of the DALOY platform prototyped by SMART according to the specifications requested by the PNPMG and its users. A soft launch was held at the PNP Regional Maritime Unit 9 on March 15 with USAID Philippines Mission Director Dr. Susan Brems as guest of honor.
- Conducted initial discussions with MPDC of South Ubian and Sapa-Sapa together with BFAR provincial staff regarding the MPAs to be established in the three expansion municipalities.
- Conducted meeting with ECOFISH partners to present the Sulu Archipelago MKBA 2016 work plan and discussed priority and doable activities for the next eleven months.

- Conducted exploratory meeting with the Tawi-Tawi Family Life Foundation, Inc regarding possible social enterprises and livelihood activities.



Launching of the PN-PMG's DALOY platform for text message reporting of fisheries and coastal law violations. Dr Susan Brems, USAID/Philippines Mission Director was the guest of honor.

- Conducted the second leg of the Maritime Law Enforcement Training for BFAR FLEQRT-ARMM. The purpose of the training was to equip the participants with basic technical skills in marine law enforcement such as navigation and seamanship, chart work, GPS proficiency, vessel search, and shipboard arrest techniques.
- Meeting with schools, municipal fisheries coordinators of BFAR, and BFAR Provincial Officer on the activities lined up for the Fish Conservation Week.



Police Superintendent Oliver Tanseco explaining the basic navigation concepts for coastal law enforcers and facilitating the chart plotting exercises during the second leg of the BFAR QRT Training on Maritime Law Enforcement.

- Dialogue with PNP-Maritime Group Director PCSUPT Efren M. Perez, partners, and stakeholders in Tawi-Tawi at Rachel's Place Hotel and Restaurant.
- Meeting with Chairman of Agriculture and Fisheries of Panglima Sugala on Municipal Law Enforcement Team activities, reactivation of the radio program on environment, and MPA assessment for additional MPAs in Panglima Sugala.

- Courtesy call of ECOFISH's Fishery Law Compliance and Enforcement Specialist, Jun Narvadez, and BFAR focal person for ECOFISH with the Tawi-Tawi provincial officials. The meeting also included a revisit of the Tawi-Tawi Environmental Code and other coastal



Police Chief Superintendent Efren Perez and participants during the stakeholders consultation and dialogue in Bongao, Tawi-Tawi.

resources management activities.

- Co-facilitated the Municipal Law Enforcement Team meeting of Panglima Sugala, including orientation on AMPA and EAFM benchmarking.
- Attended BFAR meeting with MSOU and PNP-MG's RMU-ARMM regarding seaborne patrol plan.



Participants of the ECOFISH sponsored seminars on Radio as Medium for Promoting Compliance and Enforcement of Maritime Laws in Tawi-Tawi participated in by media practitioners and law enforcement personnel. They were conducted in February and in March 2016.

- Conducted seminar on Radio as Medium for Promoting Compliance and Enforcement of Maritime Laws" on February 24, and March 17,, with the aim of developing materials for the two radio programs that the Project would fund for the PNPMG and BFAR and identification of personnel, preferably from the PNPMG, to host and run the two programs.



ECOFISH site team and BFAR Provincial Fisheries Office staff participated in the Medical Mission in Panglima Sugala in March 2016. The team conducted IEC campaign and discussed the importance of a healthy fisheries and marine environment to the community.

- Participated in the Medical Mission commissioned by the LGU of Panglima Sugala particularly in the barangays Belatan Halo and Balingbing respectively. The ECOFISH Project and BFAR/PFO presented the importance of fisheries and other marine environment in the area and conduct IEC awareness campaign.
- ECOFISH Project facilitated the approval of the barangay resolution for establishment of MPA in Brgy. Likud Igang, Tabawan, South Ubian. The approved resolution will be elevated to municipal level for endorsement and subsequent approval of the local chief executive.



ECOFISH team during the consultation with officials for the approval of the barangay resolution (right photo) for the establishment of MPA in Barangay Likud Igang, Tabawan, South Ubian.

- ECOFISH facilitated the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement with Philippine National Police-Maritime Group (PNPMG) and Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources-Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BFAR-ARMM) to enforce fishery laws, rules and regulations in ARMM waters.
- Conducted BFAR-ARMM QRT Training Levels 2 and 3 that include orientation on RA 8550 and RA 106543, gathering of evidence, and paralegal principles (April 5-8, 2016). The participants are expected to be able to prepare affidavits and file cases, familiarize with

fishery laws and other related marine protection and conservation measures. The training also served as venue to foster close collaborations between BFAR/ARMM and PNPMG.



Signing of MOA between BFAR-ARMM and PNP-MG on Joint Protection of ARMM Waters. Seated from left are Police Superintendent Efrén Perez of PNP-MG and BFAR-ARMM Regional Director Janice Musali and Nur Harun of ECOFISH (left photo).

- Conducted IEC and perception survey in the municipality of Tandubas, Tawi-Tawi on April 20, 2016. One-on-one interviews with fisherfolks were also undertaken in six barangays. Results of the survey will serve as inputs to initiatives in marine environmental protection, drafting of resolutions and ordinances, including establishment of MPAs.



BFAR's Quick Response Team and PNP-Maritime Group as participants of ECOFISH compliance and enforcement training.



Fisherfolks listening to ECOFISH staff explaining the importance of fisheries marine habits.

- Supported the conduct of National Conference on Environment Science, commissioned by the Mindanao State University, Bongao Campus. The project sponsored the photo contest and put-up display booth photos during the entire events, most of the participants are scientists nationwide.
- Conducted BFAR/ARMM Quick Response Team Training on Information Gathering, Investigation and Reporting (INTEL). July 9-12, 2016 back to back with Coastal Law Enforcement Compliance Assessment for the six covered municipalities
- Courtesy call with Mayor Jimuel Que of the municipality of Bongao with SATA Nur Harun and CRS Roger Irlis last July 11, 2016
- Visited Ipil Fish Sanctuary to finalize the schedule of activities on the deployment of new marker and sinker with local barangay officials with support coming from BFAR/PFO on July 18, 2016
- On July 20, 2016 the SA team visited the municipality of Simunul to meet the official and members of Tangusong-Maruha Fish Sanctuary to plan the launching of MPA/FS new marker and set-up new officers and members to be presented to Mayor for approval and continuous financial support.
- Supported the conduct of willingness to pay (WTP) in the municipality of Simunul and Tandubas. Atty J Ramos also conducted interview with the local partners for the formulation of ordinances for user fee in the area last July 23-27, 2016
- The SA team facilitated the conduct of MPA Guard Training for Tangusong-Maruha and Ipil Fish Sanctuary respectively, in collaboration with PNPMG RMU/1st SOU. The PNPMG will adopt the area for their AMPA program and will provide identification card for each Bantay Dagat members held on August 1-6.

- Facilitated the conduct of EAFM Inter LGU Management Plan Training and Orientation on Marine Spatial Planning and Identification of fishery and sea uses in the municipal waters of Sulu Archipelago on August 11.
- The team also had a meeting for collaboration works with Panglima Sugala Task Force for the conservation and management of fisheries resources in the area. The product of these meeting is the signing of MOA between and among local partners on August 12. ECOFISH was part of the MOA as witness.



Divers showing the Our Ocean banner during the underwater clean up (Scubasorero) in ECOFISH supported MPA in Panglima Sugala.

- Supported the conduct of Scubasorero in the MPA covering of Panglima Sugala municipality as part of their foundation day in collaboration with Bongao Rotary Club.
- On September 20-22, facilitated and conducted the MPA Guard Training and Re-orientation of Bantay Dagat of Panglima Sugala to assess the status of the MPA/FS in terms of compliance and understanding of basic ecology and EAFM. The activity is very helpful to Bantay Dagat, especially in the aspects of enforcement of RA 10654.

- Rolling-out the implementation of EAFM, the SA MKBA facilitated the Orientation on EAFM to selected people's organization in barangays Ipil, Bongao, and Tawi-Tawi on September 24-25. The identified fisherfolks who participated in the activity were beneficiaries of the social enterprise projects assisted through SAF Tawi-Tawi Family Life Foundation Inc. The objectives of the activity was to orient fisherfolks on the ecosystem-



Participants ND facilitators during the workshop with fisherfolk community on the appreciation of EAFM. This particular exercise was designed to facilitate the understanding of connectivity in the marine ecosystem.

approach to fisheries management (EAFM) approach in addressing threats and issues in the coastal and marine ecosystems and recognize how ecosystems benefit human societies and how human societies in turn impact the ecosystems.

- Radio program over DXGD AM Band every Tuesday anchored by Ms. E. Martinez of BFAR/ARMM Provincial Fisheries Office. Last September 26, 2016 also piloted radio program over DXNH FM Band schedule every Monday @ 10-11am. The project hired the radio anchor from MSU.
- Activation of Tawi-Tawi I Love the Ocean Movement last September 27, 2016. The SA team and I Love the Ocean Movement team conducted planning session and brainstorming to come-up 3months work plan. One of the activity identified was the poster making contest schedule for the 53rd Fish Conservation week celebration.
- Coordination meeting with barangay Lakitlakit and Mandulan, Bongao Tawi-Tawi on their plan for the establishment of Marine Protected Area/Fish Sanctuary. Both Barangay Chairmen's are very much closed to Mayor Que.
- Monitoring the progress Dragon Boat construction by sending photos every Tuesday and Friday to the Communications Specialist for uploading on the ECOFISH Facebook account. The said Dragon Boat was supported in partnership with Smart Communications.



Construction of the dragon boat for the PNP Martime Group as part of the initiative to inform the wider project about DALOY. The boat will be used in competitions and will bear the DALOY logo.

5.8. Verde Island Passage MKBA

In Years 2 and 3, ECOFISH conducted a series of activities with partners to identify the appropriate courses of action to effectively implement EAFM. A particular intervention identified is a proposed closed season for small pelagics that include the participation of commercial fishers and fishing operators, municipal fisherfolks, LGU officials, NGOs, POs, and other stakeholders. The series of consultations was a collaboration between ECOFISH, the PGENRO and Conservation International. Likewise, the team made use of the results of the CLE and EAFM benchmarking to guide the other early management interventions and capacity building.

In Year 4, most project activities will be in support of inter-LGU interventions such as marine spatial planning, municipal fishing boats and gear registration and licensing, inter-LGU fisheries management planning, and strengthening of MPA and enforcement networks. Also in Year 4, the project supported the implementation of the second round of the seasonal fishing closures for small pelagic fish species as a strategy to increase fish stocks. This was initiated and

successfully executed in Year 3 and the team provided technical and logistic assistance in the participatory planning processes and the actual conduct of the seasonal closure. The project also continued its support in strengthening the MPA and Bantay Dagat networks, as well as the Batangas Environment Response Team (BERT), which were all instrumental in the success of last year's closed season. It worked with the Provincial Government in the reactivation of the Balayan Bay Integrated Coastal Management Board, which covers the ECOFISH focal area and the adjacent municipalities of Lian, Nasugbu, and Tuy.

The project also provided support in the strengthening of the POs implementing social enterprise activities funded through the Special Activity Fund. It continued to engage and coordinate with the Batangas Coastal Resource Management Foundation, Inc., and other private groups to encourage their participation in the fishery management programs of partner LGUs and particularly in the provision of possible sources of livelihood for those who were directly affected in the seasonal closure.

The box below summarizes the status (O-ongoing; C- completed) of various interventions and activities under deliverables.

Verde Island Passage MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Collect and consolidate secondary data on Administrative Adjudication and related materials.	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Provide outline and assist in the writing the case studies.	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 4: State of the Marine Resources Report				
Participate in the drafting of SMRR.	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Coordinate with partners the conduct of Fish Examiners' Training for municipalities in the focal area.	O	O	O	O
Facilitate training of the BERT/PNP on plotting and use of GPS leading to certification by NAMRIA.	O	O	C	
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Facilitate the Launching of 700DALOY.	C			
Provide technical and administrative assistance during the Business Planning and Partnership Training Workshops.	O	O	O	O
Assist in the mobilization and conduct of business planning workshops.	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Facilitate feed-backing of results of fisheries and bio-physical monitoring, governance benchmarking & socio-economic monitoring to partners	O	C		
Support in the conduct of periodic monitoring of coastal law compliance and enforcement	O	O	O	O
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Establishment of appropriate fishing effort configuration.				
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				

Facilitate strengthening of MPA management committees.	O	O	C	
Facilitate Wildlife Enforcement Training for MPA rangers.	O	O	C	
Provide assistance in the conduct of MPA evaluation and assessment – for areas with existing MPAs or network of MPAs.	C			
Assist in the establishment of new MPAs/fish sanctuaries as well as drafting of ordinances.		O	O	O
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Facilitate the review of inter-LGU fisheries management plan (for those MKBAs with existing inter-LGU fisheries management plan).		O	O	O
Conduct CLE assessment workshop.		O	C	
Provide technical assistance and coordination in the formulation of Integrated CFRMP (consultations, orientations and planning).	O	O	C	
Coordinate and conduct consultative meeting and planning workshop for the formulation of Integrated CFRM Plan.	O	O	O	O
Assist LGUs in the zoning and spatial planning of zones for economic uses and reduce use conflicts.		C		
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Assist in the development of sustainable financing schemes with partner LGUs (particularly on user's fees, resource rents for mangroves and beaches, environmental fees, aquaculture and mariculture projects and other related projects).	O	O	O	C
Data gathering on existing local legislations, licensing system and economic use zones.	O	O	O	C
Facilitate the conduct of public consultations for users' fee.	O	O	O	C
Assist in identification for replication of other users' fee schemes.				C
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Conduct collection of annual CRM revenues and cost/income statements for all the LGUs (in support to cost-benefit analysis of Fisheries Management).		O	O	C
Assist in business planning workshop and documentation of enterprises developed.		O	C	
Assist in documentation of pilot testing of enterprises developed.		O	O	O
Assist in conduct of Net-Works Surveys for the coastal barangays.		C		
Deliverable 14: Advanced Trainings Advanced Trainings in Specialized Fisheries Management (SFM) Interventions for Inter-LGU Alliance				
Advanced trainings in fisheries, MPA assessment and socioeconomics				
Advanced trainings provided to key partners in fisheries related to SFM and intensified interventions			O	O
Advanced trainings in fishery law enforcement				
Fish examiners training in the MKBA			O	O

Fisheries summits				
Fisheries summit in the MKBA			O	O

Highlights of Key Site-Level Activities/Accomplishments:

- ECOFISH convened all stakeholders in developing OPLAN Bantay Look Balayan and Talin in preparation for the Seasonal Fisheries Closure in 2015. Only six (Bauan, Taal, Calatagan, Calaca, Mabini and Tingloy) of the 11 participating LGUs were able to ratify their SB Ordinances on Seasonal Fisheries Closure for 2016-2020. In this round of the seasonal closure implementation, cash for work incentive by the DSWD for affected fishers was no longer provided. This cast doubts on the success of the intervention. To maintain the gains of the previous years seasonal closure, the local executives decided to proceed with the initiative and enforced the provisions in the Fisheries Code (R.A. 8550 as amended by R.A. 10654) of the country. In addition, the Provincial Government's Sangguniang Panlalawigan passed a resolution supporting the six (6) years implementation of the seasonal closure.



PNP participants during the training to improve knowledge and skills in apprehension, handling of evidences related to the implementation of fishery and coastal laws in Batangas Province

- ECOFISH provided technical assistance in the capacity building of PNP personnel assigned in the LGUs in Balayan Bay to improve compliance to fishery laws. The training was aimed to equip PNP personnel with knowledge and skills in apprehension and handling of evidences related to the implementation of environmental and coastal and marine laws.
- The project provided technical assistance to the Balayan Bay LGUs in the fish catch data collection and reproductive biology study to monitor the biological effect of the seasonal fisheries closure for small pelagics in Balayan Bay.
- The site team and thematic leads provided support to the PGENRO in conducting consultation meetings with various municipalities in the implementation of the seasonal fisheries closure for small pelagics in Balayan Bay scheduled for December 2015.



Enumerators trained by ECOFISH for the conduct of fish catch data collection and reproductive biology to monitor the biological effect of the seasonal closure for small pelagics in Balayan Bay.

- The team also attended public hearings of the Sanguniang Bayan of various Balayan Bay LGUs during the process of deliberation and enactment of the ordinance for the closure. The team served as resource persons during the public hearings and deliberations.



Consultation with LGUs regarding the seasonal closure for small pelagics in Balayan Bay for the month of December 2015

- The BERT OPLAN Workshop for 2015 was conducted at Matabungkay Resort. It was attended by the PNP BPPO, PNP-MG, PCG, 11 Participating LGUs and their Bantay Dagat, PAF, BFAR Region IVA QRT and ECOFISH headed by PGENRO. The 2 day event focused on strategic operational plans for the upcoming Seasonal Closure or the Operation Bantay Look Balayan and Talin. The members of the Tactical Operation Center were identified as well as its location. Logistics and support for the operation were also discussed during this activity.



Awarding ceremonies for the 2nd Batangas Recognition Awards for Verde Island Passage Outstanding Marine Protected Area and Bantay Dagat Group for 2015. The first prize for the Best Bantay Dagat group was awarded to Bantay Dagat of Tingloy and their Chairman Reynaldo Manalo with MAO Teodora Mendoza received the awards (left photo). The Best MPA for Category 1 was awarded to Malabrigo MPA of LGU Lobo and Category 2 LGU Calatagan (right photo).

- The 2nd Batangas Recognition Awards for Verde Island Passage Outstanding Marine Protected Area and Bantay Dagat Group for 2015 was held at Pontefino Hotel and Residences. Coastal LGUs of the Province of Batangas were invited to the event. Partners of PGENRO also attended the awarding ceremony, namely: First Gen, MALAMPAYA Foundation, CI-Phils, ECOFISH and BFAR Region IVA. ECOFISH provided technical assistance to LGU Taal and San Luis in the establishment of their MPAs. Reef check assessment and formulation of MPA Ordinance were initiated.
- A quality control quality assurance was conducted for the four locations Lemery, Balayan, Calatagan and Lubang, Occidental Mindoro to monitor the reproductive biology study being conducted.
- ECOFISH participated in the 65th Anniversary of DSWD Region IV-A to receive a recognition award for its role in the seasonal closure for small pelagics in Balayan Bay.
- Conducted the Bantay Look Balayan Assessment with PGENRO, CI, BFAR 4A, PNP BPPO, PNP MG, PCG and partner LGUs in the 11 coastal municipalities who participated in the recently concluded Bantay Look Balayan 2015.
- Provided technical and logistical assistance to BFAR Region 4-A and Provincial Fisheries Office in the conduct of a Joint Mobile Registration and Licensing (JMRL) for the Commercial Fishing Vessels in Lemery, Batangas last January 21-22, 2016



The site coordinator received the recognition award for ECOFISH for its role in the planning and implementation of the seasonal closure for small pelagics in Balayan Bay. The award was given during the 65th Anniversary of the DSWD Region 4-A

- The site team participated the Business Planning Training conducted by ACSENT (Ateneo Center for Socio Enterprise) and PUSOD Inc. ECOFISH team assisted in the drafting of business plans for the participating LGUs (Lemery, Taal, Mabini and Bauan).

- ECOFISH made a courtesy call to the new BFAR 4A Regional Director Willy Cruz and ARG Virgie Bartolome. The team provided orientation about the project and update on the BFAR QRT Training for the region.

- The site team hosted the visit of Jan Auman, President of Tetra Tech International Development Service and Glen Simpson, Group Executive for the International Development of Coffey.

- ECOFISH convened a writeshop to draft the Marine Spatial Plan of Balayan Bay. This was participated in by 9 LGUs in the focal area of the project. The two-day writeshop included the review and update of zoning maps, revision and refinement of the activity guidelines, and the drafting of the expanded outline of the Marine Spatial Plan. A technical working group was created to oversee the completion of the plan.

- ECOFISH participated and co-facilitated the joint MPA Network and BERT



Participants and activities during the Marine Spatial Planning Writeshop for the municipal waters of Balayan Bay conducted in March 2016.



Training of BFAR QRT on the use of GPS and chart reading and plotting conducted by ECOFISH in collaboration with NAMRIA.

meeting for the Province of Batangas. This was participated in by MPA councils, Bantay Dagat members, municipal officials, provincial officials and national agencies.

- In partnership with NAMRIA, ECOFISH conducted a training for BFAR QRT on the use of GPS and reading and plotting using nautical charts. Engr. Mario Princer of the Hydrography Branch of NAMRIA served as resource person. Field and chart exercises were given individually and to the group formed during the training to assess and evaluate the skills and knowledge acquired by the participants.

- PNP Maritime Group Batangas Station held an oath taking of the their Advisory Council that includes ECOFISH Site



Oath taking of the PNP-MG Advisory Council (right photo) and meeting of the council to discuss current fisheries and maritime issues faced by the unit (left photo).

Coordinator Ms. Loreta A. Sollestre, Mr. Luis Awitan of PG-ENRO, DENR PENRO PAWB Representative, and Mr. Paquito D. Dela Cruz a representative from the Private Sector Group. After the oath taking PSupt Rajo Opelanio of Commanding Officer of the unit spearheaded a meeting with the members of the council on different issues faced by their unit.

- BFAR QRT Level 2 Training on Wildlife was conducted at Matabungkay Beach Hotel in Lian, Batangas. Ms. Marizka G. Juliano, M&E Assistant and Ms. Siara Jeanne F. Nulada, CRS VIP from ECOFISH were among the resource speakers of the said training discussing Marine Ecosystem and CITES Flora and Fauna. Atty. Dulce Ricafort-Fuller the Assistant Prosecutor from Tauan City, Batangas was the resource person for the Wildlife Act.
- Level 3 Training on Laws, Legal Procedures and Affidavit Writing for BFAR QRT conducted for QRT



Level 3 training for BFAR Region 4A Quick Response Team on fishery laws, legal procedures and affidavit writing conducted by ECOFISH together with BFAR Legal Office.

members of BFAR 4A. Atty. Michael Andayog of the BFAR Central Office gave the lecture on the salient features of RA 8550 and RA 10654. Atty. Dulce Ricafort-Fuller discussed the procedures to file administrative and criminal cases.

- MSP TWG Write shop conducted to draft the MSP for Balayan Bay with participating 9 LGUs from the focal area of VIP MKBA. This was also participated in by NGAs including PNP-MG, BFAR PFO and NFRDI and PGENRO. Each chapter from the MSP draft was assigned to different LGUs and partner agencies.
- Enforcement Assessment for VIP was conducted by ECOFISH. This was participated in by the different enforcement sectors from the 9 focal area municipalities in Balayan Bay including the PNP Municipal Police Station Chiefs, Bantay Dagat Chairman's and MAOs or their representatives. Also present were representatives from the PCG Batangas Province with representative from the Sub-Station of Bauan, Lemery, Balayan and Calatagan, PNP MG Station Chief and PNP BPPO PPCRB, BFAR QRT R4 and PGENRO. The participants were made to answer different (team and individual) assessment forms to evaluate and review the enforcement strategies they have conducted. The participants were divided into groups based on their area or sectors and were tasked to prepare an indicative plan for their sector/area.



Activities of the Technical Working Group during the writeshop conducted by ECOFISH to draft the Marine Spatial Plan for Balayan Bay for the 9 focal area municipalities of the VIP MKBA.



During the conduct enforcement assessment for the VIP MKBA, participants were made to evaluate and assess the status progress of their various fishery law enforcement teams and strategies.

- Conducted the Coastal Law Enforcement Training for selected chief of police investigators, PEDO of PNP Batangas province. A total of 32 PNP participants were strengthened their knowledge on fishery laws, legal procedures and proper boarding procedures. (September 29

– October 1, 2015).

- Conducted the BFAR QRT Levels 4 (Basic Communication Training that will enhance knowledge, skills and importance of media to support implementation of environmental laws) and Level 5 (Stakeholders Engagement and Strategic Communications) given by LTC Eduardo Talaroc and LTC Michael Aquino of AFP CMO.
- Conducted the Forum on the Revenue Generating Schemes for VIP MKBA to share experiences and best practices and formulate, adopt, or pass ordinances to generate revenue to support local initiatives on conservation efforts.



Activities during the training for Peoples Organization on appreciation of EAFM to stress the importance of fisheries management and environmental conservation in social enterprises activities.

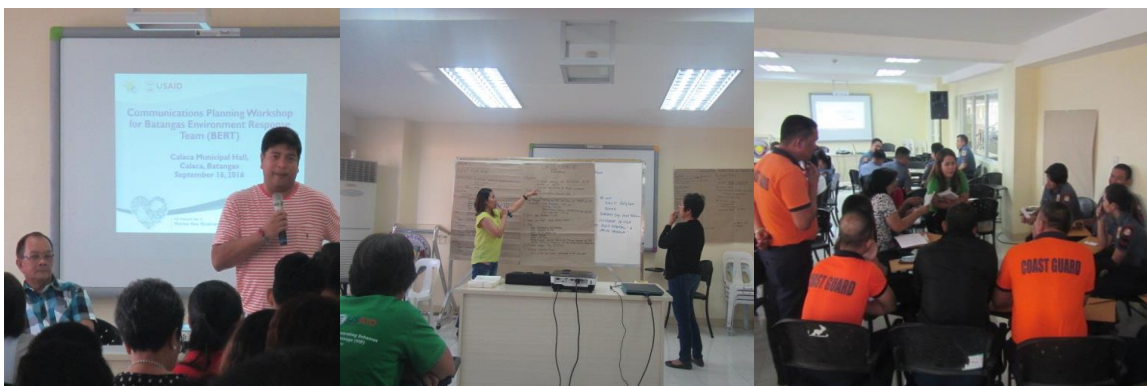
- Conducted the trainings for the People’s Organization of West Batangas (August 6-7) and East Batangas (Aug. 11-12) on appreciation of EAFM to stress the importance of fisheries management and environmental conservation in activities of the various social enterprises identified by the members.



Participants and their products during “I love the Ocean” themed poster making contest in celebration of the International Cleanup day.

- In line with the celebration of the International Coastal Clean-up, the BERT together with PGENRO Solid Waste Management Section and ECOFISH conducted the Poster Making Contest for the Junior Highschool Students of Balayan Bay Municipalities with the theme “I Love the Ocean”.

- Conducted the BERT Communication Planning Workshop at Calaca Municipal Hall last September 16. Outputs of the BERT members will be polished and used as the IEC activities for the different mandates of BERT.



Activities during the BERT Communication Planning Workshop in September 2016 at the Calaca Municipal Hall. Outputs will be used for IEC activities of the alliance.

- Meeting with SB Bauan Hon. Ronald Cruz at together with PGENRO for the ordinance of the 3rd cycle Seasonal Closure 2016.
- Attended the CRM Code Meeting of LGU Mabini last September 26 at the SB Hall of Mabini. The CRM Code of Mabini was officially approved last June 26, 2016.
- Conducted the 2 day training of the Baseline Socio Economic Survey Training for VIP with 3 enumerators for the 183 PO members as respondents. A dry run was also conducted at Taal, Batangas for the said training.

6. Performance Synopsis

Table 4 summarizes the major performance indicators, life of project targets, Year 4 targets, actual accomplishments to date, and percentage of accomplishment to date of the ECOFISH Project. Key Results A and B, percentage increase in the biomass of selected fisheries and percentage increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment, respectively, were measured in the focal areas across the eight MKBAs in Year 1 (baseline) and Year 3 (monitoring event). The final measurement will be conducted in Year 5. For the Year 3 monitoring event, the Project Key Result A, the percentage increase in fisheries biomass, was 6% and Project Key Result B, the percentage increase in number of people gaining employment or better employment, was 27%. The increase in fisheries biomass came mainly from MPAs. Six of the 8 MKBAs registered positive reef fish biomass results while increase in catch rates were achieved only in 4 of the 8 MKBAs. The combination of all socio-economic indicators showed that there was an overall improvement in the number of people gaining employment or better employment in 7 out of 8 project MKBAs. The increase came mainly from the improvement in net profits from fishing, shorter fishing trips, shorter travel times to fishing grounds and a general improvement in household savings.

As in previous annual reports, the project has exceeded targets for Year 4. The number of national and local EAFM training courses conducted, number of persons trained, and number of person-hours of training have exceeded the targets. Some sites are more advanced than others and training activities intended for later years, such as planning for network of MPAs and spatial planning, were requested by partners to be conducted ahead of intended schedule. The number of hectares of municipal waters under improved management has also exceeded the target. The team underestimated starting levels of fisheries management initiatives in the former FISH project sites and presumed that they have declined since the termination of that project in 2010. It was likewise assumed that the four new sites would have very low levels of fisheries management capabilities and interventions.

ECOFISH provided technical and facilitation support for the updating of the Comprehensive National Fisheries Industry Development Plan at the request of BFAR. More than 500 participants representing all sectors of the fisheries industry and coastal local governments took part in the review and amendment process in successive workshops over three months. The updated CNFIDP was launched in February 3, 2016. At the launching event, BFAR gave USAID a plaque of appreciation for its continuing support to BFAR. Mr. Michael Klecheski, Deputy Chief of Mission of the US Embassy, received the award.

An enhanced version of the DALOY platform was commissioned and prototyped by SMART according to the specifications requested by the PNP-MG and proposed changes from feedback by the users. A soft launch was held at the PNP Regional Maritime Unit 11, on March 15 with USAID Philippines Mission Director Dr. Susan Brems as guest of honor. 700DALOY was also identified as a finalist for the USAID RDMA “Harnessing Data for Resiliency” Award.

The TV White Space Partnership was selected as the winning partnership for the prestigious P3 Impact Award. Hosted by the United States Department of State, Concordia, and the University of Virginia Darden School of Business, the partnership bested over 20 other partnerships and

was recognized for its innovation in addressing a systemic problem in fisheries management—fisherfolk registration in remote areas—through the use of technology.

Table 4. Performance Indicators, Life of Project Targets, Year 4 Cumulative Targets, Project Accomplishment Total to Date, and Percentage of Accomplishment to Date.

PIRS ¹ No.	Key Result Area	Performance Indicator	LOP Target	Year 4 Target	Project Totals to date	
					Accom- plished	%
1	Result A. An average of 10% increase in fisheries biomass across the eight MKBAs.	Percentage increase in the biomass of selected fisheries in the focal areas across the 8 MKBAs relative to baseline using fisheries dependent method and MPA assessment method	10	5	6	60%
2	Result B. A 10% increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management from a baseline established at the start of the project	Percentage increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment in the focal areas across the eight MKBAs relative to baseline using socio-economic methods	10	5	27	270%
3	Result C. Establishment of a national capacity development program to enhance the capacities of LGUs and relevant national agencies to apply ecosystem-based approaches to fisheries management.	Number of EAFM training courses conducted (national, regional and local)	120	120	217 ²	181%
4		Number of persons trained in EAFM, MPA and CCA (national, regional and local) [FACTS 4.8.1-27: Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation]	1,800	1800	9,450	525%
5		Number of person hours of training on EAFM, MPA, and CCA (national, regional and local) [FACTS 4.8.1-29: Number of person hours of training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation supported by USG assistance]	24,000	21,600	208,514	869%
6		Number of policy studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA (national) [FACTS 4.8.2.28: Number of laws, policies, strategies, plans, agreements, or regulations addressing climate change and/or biodiversity conservation formally proposed, adopted, or implemented as a result of USG assistance]	8	8	14	175%
7	Result D. Eight public-private partnerships supporting the objectives of the ECOFISH project created and operating	Number of strategic partnerships formally established and operating (cumulative)	8	6	6	75%
8		Number of community partnerships actively engaged and mobilized (cumulative)	100	80	93	93%
9	Result E. One million hectares of municipal marine waters under improved management.	Number of hectares of municipal waters under improved management (cumulative) [FACTS 4.8.1-26: Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance]	1,000,000	900,000	969,420	97%
10		Number of hectares of MPAs and network of MPAs established (cumulative)	320	320	592	185%

¹ Performance Indicator Reference Sheet (refer to Appendix 1 of the ECOFISH Performance Monitoring Plan for details)

² In the conduct of an internal DQA, all trainings were subjected to evaluation using the definition provided in FACTS 4.8.1-29. Some of these trainings which were considered part of the projects' operation or either not training at all such as round table discussions and activity launching are excluded on this reporting period.

PIRS ¹ No.	Key Result Area	Performance Indicator	LOP Target	Year 4 Target	Project Totals to date	
					Accom- plished	%
		[FACTS 4.8.1-26: Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance]				
11	Result F. A core of 30 LGUs across the eight MKBAs with improved capacity for implementing ecosystem approaches to fisheries management.	Number of inter-LGU/MKBA fisheries management plans developed	8	6	6	75%
12		Number of LGUs that have achieved EAFM benchmark level 2 or higher (cumulative)	42	30	26	62%

ECOFISH provided the scientific, technical, and governance advice for the establishment of a “seasonal closure” for small pelagics in the Verde Island Passage in year 3. The project continued to provide the same advice in Year 4 and supported the conduct of the fisheries monitoring to determine and measure the effect of the seasonal closure to the abundance of the small pelagics fish stocks. The project likewise held follow up forums and consultations in Batangas in January 2016 to assess the effectiveness of the seasonal closure on small pelagics in Balayan Bay.

ECOFISH has adapted the Essential EAFM Training Course developed by NOAA, CTI and others, for use in the Philippines. The Philippine version (Mainstreaming EAFM Planning Process) departs from a training course platform to a guide for conducting a stakeholders’ EAFM planning process. The focus of the process is preparing a workable and realistic EAFM plan that stakeholders can rally behind to implement. The output EAFM Plan will cover a fisheries management area at an ecologically meaningful scale. It will guide BFAR in aligning its regular programs and budget to support the identified strategies and management actions. The LGUs will likewise align their local policies, programs and budgets to implement the plan in their respective jurisdictions. The M-EAFM Planning Process will include specific Philippine context and examples to help stakeholders prepare the management actions appropriate for their fisheries management area. In Year 5, ECOFISH will facilitate the EAFM planning process in the San Bernardino-Ticao Pass-Lagonoy Gulf MKBA.

The project, through MERF, finalized the draft of the State of the Marine Resources Report and presented to partners, co-authors, and stakeholders in a validation workshop for review and updating. Impact and Response components of the PSIR framework as adopted by the State of Marine Resources Report were identified during the workshop and subsequently incorporated in the draft report.

The team developed a case study to demonstrate the application of ecological, social, and governance principles to MPA and network of MPA designing process. The case study involved a tabletop geospatial analysis, a workshop to test the methodology, and documentation of the process and results. A standard guide or manual is currently being developed for use in other focal ecosystems of the ECOFISH Project and projects of interested institutions. The Danajon Reef MPA network was chosen as the pilot study area and a two-day training workshop was conducted with local partners in March 2016. The designing process was documented and this

was replicated in South Negros MKBA in July 2016. The same activity will be further replicated in the other MKBAs in the remaining life of the project.

The inter-LGU FRM planning was done in parallel with the establishment and strengthening of the inter-LGU enforcement teams, including the strengthening of their regulatory and compliance capabilities. To consolidate the various efforts, ECOFISH continued to assist these clusters of LGUs in developing their water and fisheries use zoning plans through Marine Spatial Planning. In the first half of Year 4 the team developed the design for right-sizing of fishing effort. Orientation and consultation workshops with selected LGU clusters will be initiated in second half of Year 4 to establish their fishing effort configurations, following a series of LGU and stakeholder consultations. These will be further incorporated into their respective plans.

Results of the value chain studies were presented to various LGUs and partners across the eight MKBAs. Results were utilized by partners to guide them in the establishment of social enterprises in selected communities, e.g. sea cucumber ranching in CIG and mud crab fattening in Surigao del Norte and also to identify management interventions for fishery resources like the blue crab in Danajon Reef, tuna in Negros, and sardines in San Bernardino Strait.

Recognizing the need for BFAR to establish a comprehensive national system for organizing several databases for fisheries related information, the BFAR-Fisheries Information Management Center (FIMC) teamed up with ECOFISH for a tie-up and collaboration. In the 3rd quarter of 2015, BFAR-FIMC and ECOFISH co-designed a data management capacity package, complete with technical specifications on hardware, software, and basic data management protocols towards consolidating FishR, BoatR, FLEMIS and PhilCatch databases under an EAFM database.

For the special case of the ancestral domain of the Tagbanuas in Coron Island, the project is continuing to provide technical assistance in drafting their business plan for their tourist attractions located inside their ancestral domain. Financial processes have now been documented, strategic plans have been formulated and their business plan is now being finalized. Another special case is in Siargao Island of the Surigao del Norte MKBA, wherein user fees recommended by the project will be implemented by the Protected Area Management Bureau (PAMB) of Siargao Protected Landscape.

FGDs for assessing and updating auxiliary invoice taxes and tourist user fees were conducted among Lingayen Gulf, Danajon Bank and VIP LGUs. For LGUs with existing ordinances, collection and disbursement schemes are being assessed, particularly whether the unit amounts are appropriately determined so that they will result in revenues, whether revenues are being collected efficiently, and whether collections are being used to fund fisheries management. Success stories were shared in the hopes of being replicated among their neighboring LGUs.

Enterprise development work is now being implemented in all eight MKBAs. SAF is being used to support enterprise development in seven MKBAs. For Surigao del Norte, the project is working on the establishment of social enterprises, but is not funding a partner NGO for this work. Instead, a community organizer has been hired, and other private and public partners are being sought out to fund most of the training, skills transfer, and capital outlay. Social

preparation has commenced in all sites, and for Negros and VIP, business plans have been completed. Around half of the enterprises are currently undergoing production skills training. EAFM orientation has been provided to all PO beneficiaries except in CIG, workshops for which are scheduled in November 2016. Finally, baseline surveys have been conducted for all enterprise beneficiaries, in line with the requirements of the TOC evaluation questions.

Midway through Year 4, ECOFISH was granted an increase in Total Estimated Cost (TEC) primarily to fund advanced trainings in specialized fisheries management for inter-LGU alliance. The advanced trainings will be for partner institutions in the eight MKBAs to include provincial and municipal governments, regional offices of the BFAR, the PNP - Maritime Group, local government alliances, NGOs, and academic institutions. This new deliverable consists of (1) advanced trainings in fisheries, MPAs, and socioeconomics, (2) national forum on EAFM, MPA or climate change adaptation, (3) advanced trainings on fishery law enforcement, (4) fisheries summits, and (5) five portfolio of communication materials produced and disseminated. The ECOFISH team has gone through the process of identifying advanced training needs for partners from the LGU, BFAR, NGOs and academe. Likewise, themes and topics for the MKBA summits and forums were consulted with the site teams and thematic leads. The team enhanced its collection of materials for the development of information kits, brochures, infographics and social media posts.

7. Initial Project Impacts

At this stage of implementation, the full impact of the project could not still be fully realized. However, recent project activities with partners at the national and MKBA levels have already shown some initial impacts. These are the visible impacts the Project has seen during this reporting period:

- The enhanced version of the 700DALOY platform was prototyped by SMART according to the specifications requested by the PNP-MG and proposed changes from feedback by the users. The importance of this SMS facility is increasingly recognized, not only by the PNP MG, but also by stakeholders. 700DALOY was also identified as a finalist for the USAID RDMA “Harnessing Data for Resiliency” Award.
- BFAR recognized the role of ECOFISH and USAID in the drafting the Comprehensive National Fisheries Industry Development Plan (CNFIDP). At the launching event, BFAR gave USAID a plaque of appreciation for its continuing support to BFAR. The award was received by Mr. Michael Klecheski, Deputy Chief of Mission of the US Embassy
- The project has provided an added dimension to the training of the BFAR-QRT by focusing on the important elements of fishery law enforcement. The trainings courses are primarily focused on improving individual skills in the various aspects of enforcement, namely, in chart reading, boarding procedures, vessel search, shipboard arrest techniques, and custody of evidence.
- The selection of TV White Space as the winning partnership for the prestigious P3 Impact Award gave the project a well-deserved recognition from partners, institutions, and other development workers. Hosted by the United States Department of State, Concordia, and the

University of Virginia Darden School of Business, the partnership was recognized for its innovation in addressing a systemic problem in fisheries management—fisherfolk registration in remote areas—through the use of technology.

- The ECOFISH provided scientific advice to NSAP Region 4-B in the conduct studies and development of plans for the management of roundscad fisheries in Palawan. This also included providing guidance to the technical working group in coming up with the various options for the management of roundscad fisheries in Palawan including the possible seasonal closure option. The closed season was implemented from November 15, 2015 to January 30, 2016 in northern Palawan.
- ECOFISH continued support to existing MPAs and MPA Network through technical coaching, trainings and meetings resulted to replication of best practices to other sites within Calamianes Island Group. Four new MPAs in Coron and 1 in Linapacan were established and approved through municipal ordinances. A significant increase in the number of tourist arrivals in Siete Pecados Marine Park which translate to increase in income generated from user's fee.
- In the 2015 round of the seasonal closure implementation in Balayan Bay, cash for work incentive by the DSWD for affected fishers was no longer provided. This cast doubts on the success of the intervention. To maintain the gains of the previous year's seasonal closure, ECOFISH and PGENRO lobbied for its implementation. Local executives decided to proceed with the initiative and enforced the provisions in the Fisheries Code (R.A. 8550 as amended by R.A. 10654) of the country. In addition, the Provincial Government's Sangguniang Panlalawigan passed a resolution supporting the six (6) years implementation of the seasonal closure.
- ECOFISH technical team provided guidance to BFAR and the Province of Palawan in developing the management intervention for roundscad fisheries in Northern Palawan. The three month closed season was implemented in November 2015 to January 2016 by BFAR and the province. There was a 15 day delay in the issuance of the Joint Administrative Order (DA-BFAR and the DILG) on the closure but the commercial fishing operators observed a self imposed no-fishing period and the closure was a success. The team is further providing guidance for the development of a long term management plan for roundscad in Palawan and nearby waters.
- The ECAN's adoption of the municipal water use plans of the focal LGUs in CIG is considered as a sound sustainability mechanism for their long-term implementation. This likewise provides a solid endorsement of the MSP as a tool in EAFM with potential applications at various scales – at the LGU, cluster of LGUs, and province-wide application.
- PCSDS recognized the technical assistance of the project in developing the coastal and marine water use plans (CMWUP) in the 4 municipalities in CIG, they are now working with the site staff and initiated the translation of CMWUP into ECAN map and plan for CIG.
- The exemplary work of ECOFISH on fisheries management is not only known in the Philippines but it has already reach other Southeast Asia countries such as Vietnam, the Calamianes Island Group (CIG) in Palawan province, one of the Marine Key Biodiversity Area under the USAID ECOFISH Project, became a learning site for fisheries management using EAFM framework.

Annex 1: ECOFISH Case Studies

Part 1: Cross-cutting case studies

1. Closed seasons

- Closed season – a common management intervention – implemented in many areas nationwide (Zamboanga, Davao Gulf, Visayan Sea, Balayan Bay, Palawan, single LGUs also have closed seasons for particular catch – e.g. danggit) – high long-term potential benefit on fisheries resources, but also high potential negative impact on income for small fishers during the period. Balancing of ecological well-being and human well-being through good governance (this is the essence of EAFM).
- Focus on Balayan Bay and Northern Palawan (same species – galunggong – probably linked populations based on scientific studies – potential synergistic effect of closed seasons) –

2. DALOY

- Improving fisheries law enforcement; getting broad-based awareness and support for combatting illegal fishing. Analytics (national and site-based); if possible – told from a specific incident reported and responded to.

3. MPA networks including AMPA and awards

- Danajon – modifying MPA network using ecological principles.
- MPA as a strategy in general – scientific foundation for MPA networks
- Support structures and incentives: AMPA, MPA awards.

4. FishR and BoatR including TVWS

- Why register? FishR and BoatR strategy; benefits of registration; use of registration for licensing and right-sizing...

5. Improving fishing livelihoods and enterprise development

- Fishers among the poorest families – declining fish catch, poor post-harvest handling, low value-adding; feeds cycle of over-exploitation. Strategy of increasing incomes from fishing, and broadening options for income generation through enterprise dev't. The case study will focus on the process of establishing social enterprises, especially the crucial aspect of organizational preparation and feasibility studies.

Part 2: Case studies by MKBA

1. Calamianes Island Group

Case study 1 – Tagbanua (enhancing culture and traditions)

- Tagbanuas as stewards of Coron Island and surrounding waters (their ancestral domain); they lived in harmony with nature for generations; with IPRA, their rights are recognized and their responsibility to manage the area is written in the ADS DPP.

- ECOFISH supports the Tagbanuas in managing their ancestral domain, particularly the implementation of the ADSDPP; combining traditional practices with efficient and transparent management (bookkeeping, user fee system, gender roles); enhancement of cultural traditions so others can appreciate (cultural village, art); improving resilience to impacts of climate change (Yolanda assistance)...
- The Tagbanuas and ECOFISH have common objectives, even if approached differently: Tagbanuas draw from their beliefs and experience to care for nature (nature being an integral part of their identity); ECOFISH uses the tools of science to understand biodiversity and impacts of economic activities on ecosystems and livelihoods (especially in the context of a growing tourism industry). Each learns from the other.
- ECOFISH support is only a catalyst – the Tagbanuas have a clear vision of the future they want.... Scholarships from the tourist income....

Case study 2 – Siete Pecados (sustainable MPA)

- MPA management from the perspective of a ranger – motivation, pride in work, benefit to community beyond tourist income.
- It was not always like this – not too long ago, Siete Pecados was a garbage dump, rampant blast fishing... nobody cared. Most illegal fishers came from outside Coron (migrants) – temporary settlers – did not care. The original intention was not for tourism.
- Locals (Jojo and Brgy leaders) – and migrants who have lived there for more than a decade – wanted to change the situation – help from many partners – ELAC, FAO, USAID (FISH/ECOFISH) – establish as MPA
- Making MPA management work – income from tourist fees, benefits for locals, etc... real improvement in biodiversity.
- ECOFISH continues to support in order for gains to be sustainable – management plan, etc
- There are challenges – mismanagement at one point, there are some dissenters (fishers not allowed to fish in the area – mostly recent migrants); natural disasters –
- must continue to be transparent in management – show ecological gains, not just financial. Must ensure that financial benefits are shared equitably – more rangers given work, etc., must learn to be more resilient to disasters...
- Ranger happy to have a job that has meaning beyond the daily wage... happy to see tourists happy.

Case study 3 – “Basnigan” operators (right-sizing)

- Fisheries management from perspective of a basnigan operator: general description of fisheries – who fishes (small local vs commercial fishers not from Calamianes; where catch landed (commercial fish catch mostly brought to Navotas); local fish market – high value fish/crabs for tourists – too expensive for locals? Locals dependent on catch of small fishers; small fishers greatly hampered by pearl farm operations;

fishers want to earn more – tried everything from live fish trade, etc etc. not sustainable, proven more destructive....

- ECOFISH working with LGU to consult on fisheries issues – illegals, low catch, etc.... leading to MSP (who can fish where, limit pearl farms so small fishers not displaced, respect for ancestral domains). Increased law enforcement actions.
- Basnigan operators adversely affected by law enforcement actions – they are targeted because they use fine mesh nets, boats not registered or over-sized... sought dialogue with LGU.... LGU is not against them – help in legalizing operations. Their own suggestion: exception to use of fish mesh net for dilis; limit number of operators.... (this is right-sizing)... this is in the draft ordinance now being considered by LGU... hope that law enforcement will continue against other destructive fishing ...

2. Lingayen Gulf

Case study 1: Mangrove Eco-Tourism

- A feature on the mangrove forest parks as an eco-tourism destination. We compare and contrast two mangrove parks – one that's just starting out (Parian Oeste) and one that's relatively established (Alaminos' Bued Mangrove Forest Park) and how the LGU's support can help grow the mangrove parks both literally and figuratively. A sidebar also tackles the shift of the fisherfolk to eco-tourism

Case study 2: One Town, One Product: How EAFM Can Help Sustain One Town's Pride

- A look into the interaction and relationship of coastal resource management and people's livelihoods. [Daing and danggit are Sto. Tomas' pride and joy. The one product of this town in La Union, they depend on a regular supply of fish to dry and sell.] Espada – major fisheries product – delicious, abundant, sought after. Backstory: how is it caught? Trawl – illegal. Preference for juveniles (crispier). How does market demand and fishing method impact the sustainability of the stock and the habitat (trawls damage the ecosystem). [ECOFISH has no direct intervention on this, but this case study can give an idea of the links between market demand, fishing and enforcement]. We have assistance for danggit conservation (closed season).

Case study 3: The La Union Baywatch Network for Sustainable Fisheries

- A feature on the creation and formation of this task force and its impact on La Union and Lingayen Gulf. – how will it be better and sustainable this time around...

3. Verde Island Passage

Case study 1: Pagpapahinga ng Look ng Balayan (closed season) – this is more about the people and jobs

- Different perspectives: LGU champion, commercial fishing boat operator, affected crew member, small-scale fisherfolk, market vendor, scientist... (see write-up by Germans, and ECOFISH video)

- Why is this innovative? First ever inter-LGU closed season, cash-for-work program, full stakeholder participation from inception to M&E.
- Why was it not supported by some LGUs during election year? (closed season was still enforced anyway).
- What is the prospect of future implementation/ sustainability? (many LGUs already passed multi-year ordinances, those that did not pass the ordinances in 2016 can still catch up)
- Did it really improve the condition of fisheries? (results of scientific studies, perception surveys).

Case study 2: BRAVO awards

- Background – who started it, why...
- For best managed MPAs. Very stringent criteria (MEAT, now including SEAT). A model for other incentive schemes in other areas (with ECOFISH promotion)...
- why does it work as an incentive – perspective of a winning MPA; perspective of an aspiring MPA...

4. Ticao Pass-Lagonoy Gulf-San Bernardino Strait

Case study 1: Women managed area – Calitaan, Matnog

- Subic beach in Matnog a major tourist destination. Samahan ng Kababaihan Bantay Sanktwaryo ng Calitaan – women managed MPA – fish sanctuary + seaweed farm, fish cage, hilot – they protect the ecosystem as well as generate goods and services for the tourists. A good example of transitioning into the ecotourism sector. (what were they doing before?)
- Ecotourism also expanding to islands in N Samar – Capul, San Vicente, Biri.

Case study 2: Pakurat – pinoy ingenuity (Norli)

- The common fishing method for catching law-law (sardines) is through sapyaw. Problem of using regular (legal) size fish net – sardine gets caught in the mesh and a big proportion of the catch is damaged – low price. Low price is complicated by cartel controlling supply of ice and fish trading.
- A fisherman from San Vicente – a keen observer – developed a new method – pakurat. Sneaks up to a school of sardines, stuns them with a blast of bright lights, scoops them up in a fine-mesh net. Fishing time is quick, quality is much better (not damaged, very fresh), market price is double. Problem is: fine mesh net is illegal.
- Other fishers are either supportive (they want to shift to pakurat also) or against (it is illegal). In Bulan (town where the fish port is), local fishers are against pakurat and has petitioned the LGU to ban it. San Vicente (where the inventor is from) is more supportive and just want to regulate its use.
- ECOFISH provided a legal pathway to allow pakurat (exception to rule on fine mesh net) as long as there is limit to brightness of lights and number of boats operating.

ECOFISH also conducted scientific studies to help determine what is a sustainable catch (seasonality, geographic limits, fishing effort). The two LGUs are currently in negotiation.

- Ingenuity is met with skepticism and criticism at the start – especially if it has potential to be destructive (that is why ECOFISH focused on setting down safeguards); (a number of oppositors are probably jealous of inventor's success – because they cannot replicate his technique); inventor has been very generous in sharing the technology for free...

5. South Negros

Case study 1: South Negros Coastal Development Management Council Alliance

- A closer look at the Negros Occidental Alliance composed of three municipalities – Sipalay, Hinubaan and Cauayan – and how they help each other out to promote EAFM and protect the seas. (relate/ contrast this with the alliance in Neg Or modeled after Bohol where they did cross-visit during FISH project?? – the LGUs decided to disband – ECOFISH asked them to reconsider and broaden their cooperation, follow model of SNCDMC.)

Case study 2: Barongoy and tuna

- Flying fish (barongoy) a major catch – barongoy festival. The fish is pelagic, suited to the deep waters of the area; can be caught nearshore. Most fishers of barongoy are small fishers.
- Unknown to many, Bayawan is the source of 40% of all tuna brought to General Santos City, the recognized Tuna Capital of the Philippines. We learn more about the country's secret tuna capital and its tuna fishing industry. (tie this with the situation where the fishing ground is deep water – favorable for commercial fishers – which is why there is rampant commercial fishing intrusion in municipal waters).
- Tuna also likes deep water. But they are farther off than the barongoy (even if still within municipal waters) – only the commercial fishers can go there.

Case study 3: Commercial fishing operations – (tuna?)

- what do they think? Why do they think they should they be allowed? what has BFAR and LGUs done to help them make their operations legal (facilitated registration and licensing...)

Case study 4: PAPSIMCO

- women led mudcrab fattening enterprise.

6. Danajon Bank

Case study 1: Danajon Double Barrier Reef

- why it is unique... Panglao is not the only attraction... few tourists know... but local

learning to appreciate... FISH established the learning center – still existing... starting them young... highly competent and dedicated champions (Jojo, etc)... there are many good practices (MPA network, law enforcement...) – but the threat remains. Why? (what do the champions think?). Boholanos most gentle, most resilient, hardworking... all that energy can be harnessed to address the issues.... But they can't do it alone. Highlight extreme poverty in the island barangays. The scale of DDBR is so large – need to work with 3 other provinces in 2 regions... CELEBOSOLE and other institutions created (including CLEAR 7 for enforcement) – are the institutions/actions sustainable?

Case study 2: blue crab partnership

- simple solution (gear swap) to a persistent problem of over-exploitation. Role of practical science in management.
- PPP with private sector and BFAR.
- Huge potential for serving the tourist market (in Alona Beach – there is everything from lobster to high value fishes – where do these come from? – supplier not from Bohol, but caught in Bohol?)
- Blue crab management – part of a larger effort for ethical sourcing of seafood... Alona Beach – would tourists ask where their fish came from/ if it was ethically caught?

Case study 3: climate change adaptation- disaster risk reduction (CCA-DRR)

- Earthquake, then Yolanda... testing the faith of Boholanos (known for being very religious).
- After the earthquake – scientific forum facilitated by ECOFISH... (lots of good interesting stories there)
- climate change- (what do the locals understand/perceive about the change?) – more extreme weather in the coming decades... must adapt... Yolanda will not be the last.
- People are very resilient – but they can reduce risks – nature is their buffer. Protecting the mangroves and coral reefs... (securing food supply and protecting against storm surge)...

7. Surigao del Norte

Overview/theme

Case study 1: KAMAMANA – from ilegalista to kontratista

- Perspective of a member who once engaged in illegal fishing and is now into fattening crabs for international market.
- History of fishing practices – what illegal method? Why? Who taught them? Did they make money? What made them realize it was wrong? Were there arrests? Why did they shift to crab fattening/ coco coir? Would they go back to illegal fishing? Who

were the catalysts of the change (not just ECOFISH).

- What is their attitude towards others still into illegal fishing.

Case study 2: hulbot operators

- What is hulbot-hulbot, and why was it banned? Is the operator convinced that what s/he is doing is destructive? It was not illegal before, why make it illegal now – they are just trying to make a living – what is wrong with that?
- Were they consulted before the ban was imposed? Process... how was the ban announced, implemented? Was there any assistance from BFAR re shift to another gear?
- Was there voluntary compliance (in the beginning, yes) - what happened? Why is hulbot still operating – clandestinely – in Siargao... will they ever stop? What considerations?
- ECOFISH role in hulbot studies to justify regulation/enforcement (and support cases) – this is national, not just in SDN.
- Is enforcement consistent? Effective? Anti illegal fishing task force...

Case study 3: Siargao – surfer's paradise. What price?

- Protected area (NIPAS); relatively pristine environment.
- Tourists are willing to pay a good price to enjoy the place – willingness to pay survey results.
- Fisherfolk have good potential to gain from goods and services – ECOFISH livelihood assistance...
- Role of women... San Isidro women's organization – coco coir enterprise.

Case study 4: Discovering the Potential of Mangrove Crabs

- Siargao Island's mangrove (or mud) crabs are in a different class altogether. Bigger and meatier (and of a different species), these mangrove crabs have the potential to uplift the lives of local fisherfolks.
- Also in Gigaquit (women led)

8. Sulu Archipelago (Tawi-tawi)

Case study 1: Kamahardikaan/ seaweed festival –

- showcase of culture and link to the sea.
- Importance of seaweed industry (but product quality of seaweed coming from armm is reportedly poor – low price) – why?

Case study 2: The Barangay Ipil Fishing Industry

- Located about an hour away from the town of Bongao, Barangay Ipil looks like a typical impoverished barangay in the Philippines. But as we take a deeper look, we discover their thriving fishing industry, supported and sustained by their Marine

Protected Area. We find out how their community has changed and grown from before the installation of the MPA up to the present. Perspective of a bantay-dagat.

Case study 3: Culture, Community and the Fishing Industry: Effective and Sustainable Fisheries Management in Tawi-Tawi

- Tawi-Tawi as a Marine Key Biodiversity Area is unique in how culture and community come into play in establishing and sustaining an ecosystem approach to fisheries management. We study the impact of culture on illegal fishing and the community's reaction and support.